



AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

NATIONAL CONFERENCE
AUGUST 21-25, 1995

Corpus Christi Conference Centre,
Clayton Victoria

WORKING PAPERS

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN - NATIONAL CONFERENCE, VICTORIA 1995

WORKING PAPERS

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AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN - NATIONAL CONFERENCE

CORPUS CHRISTI CONFERENCE CENTRE, CLAYTON, VICTORIA
21st - 25th August, 1995

"JESUS, WOMEN AND THE WORLD"

PROGRAM

MONDAY 21st August

11.00am - 3.00pm

REGISTRATION

4.00pm - 5.30pm

BUSINESS SESSION 1

WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS

GREETINGS / APOLOGIES

REMEMBRANCE

WORKING ARRANGEMENTS (House Rules)

PROCEDURAL ARRANGEMENTS

PRESENTATION OF WORKING PAPERS

SELECTION OF REFERENCE COMMITTEE *EDIT R. G. E. Ruth Busmester*
Joan Stott

MINUTES OF TASMANIAN NATIONAL CONFERENCE, 1993

- Alterations to Minutes

BUSINESS ARISING:

- ACWC Assembly Delegation

- Aboriginal Consultation

- NCCA Event "Household of God"

6.30pm DINNER

7.45pm - 9.00pm

"GETTING TO KNOW YOU"

9.00pm EVENING WORSHIP - VICTORIA

TUESDAY 22nd August

8.00am BREAKFAST

9.00am MORNING WORSHIP - WESTERN AUSTRALIA

9.15am ANNOUNCEMENTS - Joan Stott

9.20am BIBLE STUDY - Rev. Jill Manton, M.A.

10.30am MORNING TEA

10.50am CHORUS TIME

11.00am - 12.30pm

BUSINESS SESSION 2

CORRESPONDENCE

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE REPORTS

- PRESIDENT
- SECRETARY
- TREASURER
- SPECIAL DAYS
- FLC
- PUBLICATIONS
- ARCHIVIST

UNIT REPORTS

- WESTERN AUSTRALIA
- SOUTH AUSTRALIA
- TASMANIA
- VICTORIA
- AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY
- NEW SOUTH WALES
- QUEENSLAND

TUESDAY 22nd August
1.00pm LUNCH
2.00pm

BUSINESS SESSION 3

NATIONAL DENOMINATIONAL REPORTS

- AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP
- MOTHERS' UNION IN AUSTRALIA
- THE SALVATION ARMY
- AUSTRALIAN BAPTIST WOMEN
- CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE, AUSTRALIA
- NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR ADULT FELLOWSHIP GROUPS (Uniting Church)

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

- WORLD DAY OF PRAYER, AUSTRALIA
- NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES IN AUSTRALIA
- GIRLS' BRIGADE, AUSTRALIA
- CHURCH WOMEN UNITED, AOTEAROA/NEW ZEALAND

MOTIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS - As per Working Papers

3.30pm AFTERNOON TEA

4.00pm - 5.30pm BUSINESS SESSION 4

MOTIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS - Continued

AWARENESS PRESENTATION

INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO BAN LANDMINES
(South Australian Unit)

6.00pm DINNER

8.00pm ECUMENICAL SERVICE [Chapel]
- SUPPER

WEDNESDAY 23rd August

8.00am BREAKFAST

9.00am MORNING WORSHIP - SOUTH AUSTRALIA

9.15am ANNOUNCEMENTS - Helen Banks

9.20am BIBLE STUDY - Rev. Jill Manton, M.A.

10.30am MORNING TEA

10.50am CHORUS TIME

11.00am - 12.30pm BUSINESS SESSION 5

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP - REPORTS

WKS CONVENER

WKS TRUST

WKS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

WKS RECOMMENDATIONS

1.00pm LUNCH

1.30pm - 5.30pm BUS TRIP

6.00pm DINNER

WEDNESDAY 23rd August
7.30pm

BUSINESS SESSION 6

FORUM "IN PARTNERSHIP WITH OUR NEIGHBOURS"
Including Mrs Janice Shearer CWU Aotearoa/New Zealand

9.00pm EVENING WORSHIP - NEW SOUTH WALES
9.15pm SUPPER

THURSDAY 24th August

8.00am BREAKFAST
9.00am MORNING WORSHIP - QUEENSLAND
9.15am ANNOUNCEMENTS - Margaret Wall
9.20am BIBLE STUDY - Rev. Jill Manton, M.A.
10.30am MORNING TEA
10.50am CHORUS TIME
11.00am - 12.30pm

BUSINESS SESSION 7

ABORIGINAL CONSULTATION PRESENTATION
Ms Anne Pattel-Gray Ph.D.

1.00pm LUNCH
2.00pm

BUSINESS SESSION 8

DISCUSSION GROUPS
NOMINATIONS - Acceptance of ACT Nominations
for NATIONAL EXECUTIVE 1995-97

3.30pm AFTERNOON TEA
4.00pm - 6.00pm UNIT SHARING / CONVENERS
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE DISCUSSION / CHANGE OVER
7.00pm CONFERENCE DINNER - incorporating the Dedication
of the ACT National Executive.
9.00pm EVENING WORSHIP - ACT/INCOMING NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

FRIDAY 25th August

8.00am BREAKFAST
9.00am MORNING WORSHIP - TASMANIA
9.15am ANNOUNCEMENTS - Heather Boatman
9.20am

BUSINESS SESSION 9

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

10.30am MORNING TEA
11.00am

BUSINESS SESSION 10

SUMMING UP

12 noon CLOSING WORSHIP - VICTORIAN NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

1.00pm LUNCH

Departures during afternoon.

PARTICIPANTS

Guests:	<p>Rev. Jill Manton M.A. Mrs. Lynette Leach Mrs. Janice Shearer Ms Anne Pattel-Gray Ph.D.</p>	
National Life-Members:	<p>Mrs. Olive Ackland Mrs. Ruth Burmester OAM Mrs. Dorothy Wright</p>	<p>Observer Observer Observer</p>
National Executive:	<p>Mrs. Eunice Reidy Mrs. Joan Stott Miss Dorothy Clack Mrs. Marion Dodds Mrs. Helen Banks Mrs. Barbara Lacy Mrs. Margaret Wall Mrs. Heather Boatman Mrs. Joan Cooper Major Lynette Green</p>	<p>President Vice-President Vice-President Secretary Treasurer Minute Secretary FLC Convener Special Days Convener WKS Convener ACWC Representative</p>
Incoming National Executive:	<p>Mrs. Evonne Sullivan AM JP Mrs. Jean Thompson Major Eileen Holley Mrs. Helen Lloyd Mrs. Olga Scott</p>	<p>Delegate Delegate Delegate Delegate Delegate</p>
UNITS:		
A.C.T.	<p>Mrs. Betty Farrell Lieut.-Colonel Beth Webb Mrs. Audrey Sherwin Mrs. Jenny Jarvis</p>	<p>Delegate Delegate Observer Observer</p>
South Australia	<p>Mrs. Margaret Greenslade Mrs. Lois Harris Mrs. Athalie Ford Mrs. Dorothy Chapman Mrs. Shirley Birch Mrs. Maureen Clark Mrs. Pat Walker Mrs. Anne Murray</p>	<p>Delegate Delegate Observer Observer Visitor Visitor Visitor Visitor</p>
Victoria	<p>Rev. Marian Welford Mrs. Fran Moss Mrs. Joan Maher Mrs. Margriet Stanton</p>	<p>Delegate Delegate Observer Observer</p>

New South Wales	Mrs. Lucelle King	Delegate
	Major Joan Tong	Delegate
	Mrs. Margaret (Peg) Blake	Observer
	Mrs. Marie Majoor	Observer
	Miss Shirley Wells	Visitor
	Brigadier Mabel Ward	Visitor
	Mrs. Edith Ridge	Visitor
	Mrs. Mina Whybourne	Visitor
	Mrs. Jan Harrison	Visitor
	Mrs. Beth Finlay	Visitor
	Mrs. Heather Reid	Visitor
Queensland	Mrs. Valmai Van de Wiel	Delegate
	Mrs. Terry Reeves	Delegate
	Mrs. Ailsa Skippen	Observer
	Mrs. Anne Green	Observer
Tasmania	Mrs. Fay McCormack	Delegate
	Lieutenant Joanne Harries	Delegate
	Mrs. Shirley Brooks	Observer
	Mrs. Joan Smith	Observer
Western Australia	Mrs. Janet Watts	Delegate
	Lady Leila Wilson	Delegate
	Mrs. Vera Wilson	Observer
	Mrs. Mary Box	Observer VISITOR
	Mrs. Ailsa Maley	Visitor
	Mrs. Marjorie Scurlock	Visitor OBSERVER
Winifred Kiek Scholarship Trust	Mrs. Dorothy Haensel	Delegate
	Mrs. Dorothy Ferrier	Visitor
National Denominational Representatives:		
Churches of Christ	Mrs. Marj Dredge	Delegate
	Mrs. Maureen Daniels	Observer
	Mrs. Shirley Wallis	Observer
Salvation Army	Lieut.-Colonel Isabel Macintyre	Delegate
	Major Averil Whybird	Observer
Uniting Church in Australia	Mrs. Margaret Florence	Delegate
	Mrs. Margaret Banham	Observer
	Mrs. Pat Rowe	Observer
Roman Catholic	Mrs. Barbara Bourhill	Delegate
	Mrs. Candida Carvalho	Observer
Anglican Church in Australia	Mrs. Margaret Bradley ALTHEA DUNN	Delegate
Baptist		

National Interest Groups:

World Day of Prayer	Mrs. Barbara Grealy OAM	Observer
National Council of Churches in Australia	Ms. Hilary Christie-Johnston	Observer
Girls' Brigade		

Overseas Visitors:

Church Women United Aotearoa/New Zealand	Diana Manson Mary Chisholm Tania Kay
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IN REMEMBRANCE

We pay tribute to those members who have passed away during the last two years

Mrs Eugenie Johns	S A Unit
Mrs Myrtle Wood	S A Unit
Miss Grace Sims	S A Unit
Mrs Pauline Crosby	S A Unit
Mrs Sheila Hart	S A Unit
Miss Vera Dean	W A Unit
Mrs Olwen Lean	N S W Unit
Miss Win Dougherty	N S W Unit
Sr Lenore Sharry	N S W Unit
Commissioner Mavis Marion	VIC Unit
Mrs Lyn Birtwhistle	TAS Unit
Mrs Peg Mahony	Q'LAND Unit
Mrs Rose Douglas	A C T Unit
Mrs Nan Munro	A C T Unit
Mrs Pat Taylor-Rogers	A C T Unit

SA. Pat MADIGAN

VIC

MRS Mabel Wyllie

PROCEDURAL ARRANGEMENTS

The following procedures will be used by the President and Vice President/s during the National Conference, August 21 - 25, 1995

1. AGENDA as set out in the Conference Program, will be followed unless the meeting determines otherwise.

Any business not included in the Agenda is to be referred to the National Executive no later than noon Tuesday, August 22 for consideration, and presented for debate if and when it is considered appropriate.

The President shall determine when introduced business genuinely arises from the current debate, and if so determined, it may become part of the Conference Agenda regardless of the date introduced.

2. RESOLUTIONS must be presented in writing on the Notice of Motion Forms provided and signed by the mover and seconder, together with a preamble and/or rationale.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS and/or SUGGESTIONS from Units, if they become Resolutions, must be presented in writing as indicated above.

4. REFERENCE COMMITTEE of three (3) shall be appointed by Conference.

5. RETURNING OFFICERS two (2) shall be appointed by Conference.

6. MEMBERS WISHING TO SPEAK shall stand and wait until called by the President. Members shall address the President when speaking. All members are to please state their name, Unit/Organisation represented, before beginning to speak. Observers shall have the right to speak but not to vote.

7. ALL CONFERENCE PAPERS to be taken as read, but the presenter of the business may care to highlight certain aspects within the time limits.

8. A MOTION may be moved and the mover shall speak to the motion. Any motion which is not seconded shall lapse and not be recorded in the Conference Minutes.

The seconder of the motion may speak to the motion or may reserve the right to speak later.

9. DEBATING Up to three (3) minutes will be allowed to each speaker unless permission is granted for an extension of time (for a maximum of two [2] minutes and must be moved, seconded and agreed upon). No member may speak more than once on the same motion or amendment, except the mover, who shall have the right of reply. If debate exceeds 25 minutes on one motion, it will be deferred to a later business session.

10. AMENDMENTS may arise from the debate, but the mover of the amendment shall not have spoken to the original motion. The proposed amendment must vary the subject matter of the motion, whilst maintaining the intent of the original motion. Any amendment not seconded must lapse and not be recorded in the Conference Minutes.

The President may choose to enquire if the amendment is likely to be seconded, before allowing the mover of the proposed amendment to speak to the amendment. The mover of the amendment may not reserve the right to speak later.

One (1) amendment shall be dealt with at a time, with speakers limited to addressing the amendment subject. A speaker may foreshadow their intention (but not speak to their proposal) to offer an alternative amendment following the resolution of the current amendment. Any amendments must be taken in sequence.

11. MOTIONS may be debated once they have been moved and seconded. The President may enquire if there is anyone wishing to speak for or against the motion, and may choose to alternate such speakers. If there are no speakers against the motion, the President shall put the motion to the vote.

The mover of the motion has the right of reply to the debate immediately prior to the vote being taken.

12. THE DEBATE IS CLOSED when the time limit of 25 minutes is exceeded on the one motion; the President indicates she believes there has been sufficient debate; there are no more speakers; or when someone, who has not taken part in the debate, moves the motion "That the vote be now taken" and this is seconded and passed. The vote must be taken immediately without the mover's right of reply being granted.

If there is a motion and an amendment before Conference, the amendment is put first to the vote. With the resolving of an amendment, the debate on the motion, or the amended motion, is resumed. Any foreshadowed amendment is now proposed and the debate resumed.

The mover of the motion may give their right of reply, after which the President shall put the motion to the vote. A simple majority vote is necessary for the motion to be carried. The President shall declare the result of each vote.

13. VOTING ENTITLEMENTS are:

- 2 from each State or Territory Unit
- 1 from each denomination
- 5 from Incoming National Executive
- 1 from the WKS Trustees
- All National Executive members.

14. VOTING METHOD shall be by the Delegates displaying their official Voting Card when the vote is called for, unless otherwise decided by vote at the Conference.

15. AT THE REPORTING SESSION it shall be moved "That all Reports be taken as read". Speakers to the National Executive and Unit Reports are allocated five (5) minutes. Denominational and other Organisations Reports are allocated three (3) minutes. Questions and comments are not included in the time allocation, but at the discretion of the President.

ALTERATIONS TO THE MINUTES OF THE ACW NATIONAL CONFERENCE
HELD AT CAMP CLAYTON, ULVERSTONE, TASMANIA September 13-17, 1993

Please Note: Correction of name spelling is only noted once.
Please amend throughout.

Page 2 Mrs Delphene Stanford not Delphine
2 Mrs Lieut. Col. Beth Webb not Leut.
2 Ruth Burmester not Burmeister

Page 3 Page 31: Joan Tong's profile moved to page 51
not moved to profile

3 Incoming Treasurer postcode 3216

3 Page 8: Mrs Commissioner Beth Clinch not Church
National Interest Groups Observers not Delegates
YWCA not YMCA

3 Reword to read: Mrs Commissioner Beth Clinch
unable to stay for the full period of the
Conference, so the expectation is she will vote
while present and then Mrs Major Joan Tong will vote.

3 Delete: 'U' or 'Unit' after State or Territory
throughout Minutes.

Page 4 Add after Beth Webb's (ACT) and after Jess Horton
delete (ACT) and add (SA)

Page 5 Add "World" before Community Day Service.

5 After "Year of the Family" add "was mentioned
in the prepared service".

5 Add "song" after Least Coin.

5 Marion Dodds not Marian

Page 6 WKS Trustees Report renumber to 9a.

6 Archivist's Report insert "CARRIED" at conclusion.

7 "The Cry of Children" not the cry of children.

7 Delete time reference (and all other time
references throughout Minutes.)

Page 8 Devotions - Queensland should be moved to the bottom
of the page underneath "moved Olive Dell..."

8 14.4 Add Mrs Commissioner Beth Clinch Territorial
President of Women's Organisations.

8 14.6 Add Australia after Catholic Women's League.

8 CWLA not CWL

8 15.2 Delete "she represents Jean Cheshire".

8 Moved Mrs Major Olive Dell, seconded Mrs Major Joan Tong.

8 TUESDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER insert seperate page
received after Conference.

Page 9 Under Devotions - ACT insert:
Bible Study
Seminar
Business

9 WKS Report insert "Taumoepeau" after Ana
insert "Mahamaneerat's" after Malai

Page 10 Delete "Betty Brown put the amendments to the vote"
and "CARRIED".

Page 11 Bottom line add "seconded" after (Inc. Nat.)

Page 12 Delete "MOTION WITHDRAWN"

12 11. Delete "WKS Convenor".

Page 12	11. After "Evonne Sullivan (ACT)" insert "stated that Mrs Ruth Burmester (ACT) is a National Life Member, and she had circulated to National Executive and all State Units, a letter putting forward her recommendations on the subject under discussion." Delete the words "is a life member and sent this to each unit."
12	11. Under "Australia at a later date" insert the following sentence: "Amendment passed and became the motion."
Page 13	20. Delete "CARRIED"
Page 14	20. Delete "the suggested motion by ACT Unit re appointment of" and replace with "the nomination of Jess Horton (SA) as".
Page 16	8b. After "responsibility" add " Delete "through" and after Delphine Stanford add "indicated she was willing to assist in this matter." Delete "MOTION LOST" near bottom of page.
Page 18	3. After "National Treasurer" insert "CARRIED". 4. After "World Community Days" delete "CARRIED". Delete "CARRIED" at the bottom of the page.
Page 19	After "already stated this" insert "CARRIED".
Page 20	Bottom line insert "National Life Member."
Page 21	16. After "Women's" insert "National".
Page 22	17. After the words "due to previous" correct spelling of "Motigns".
Page 23	Move "Edith Ridge seconded Joan Tong" into position under "from the NSW Unit."
Page 24	Under "Shirley Brooks elected" delete "one" and replace with "ACWC".
Page 25	After the words "that the" insert "Victorian Unit nominations for the" and delete "incoming decision for the" and after "Incoming" insert "National".

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I would like to share with you several areas in which I have had the opportunity to represent Australian Church Women during my term as National President.

After receiving correspondence and information from CAPOW!.... (Coalition of Participating Organisations of Women) it was agreed that I should represent ACW at meetings of Presidents of these Women's organisations. I attended three Tele-Conferences from February - June 1994, and then an all day meeting in Sydney. There was a very wide spectrum of ideals, ethics, social justice, political, human rights and feminist issues represented in these meetings, and after some discussion and consideration by ACW National Executive, it was recommended and endorsed by Units, that ACW become an "Informed Organisation". This enables us to receive the CAPOW! Bulletin and FAX sheets, and we have endeavoured to disseminate this information and forward through to Units for their interest and action.

Whilst in Sydney, I was able to spend time with the NSW Unit President and Secretary, Lucelle King and Joan Tong, and along with them, attend an Ecumenical Service to celebrate the formation of NCCA, which was held in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta.

A very special privilege was mine when I represented ACW at the Inaugural Meeting of the National Council of Churches in Australia, in Canberra in July 1994. This was a real highlight for me, particularly the Opening Service in St. Christopher's Cathedral. Under the structure of NCCA, only Churches are invited to attend executive meetings, and ACW no longer has observer status. This is an area where we have continued to maintain dialogue and work towards a closer relationship with NCCA, particularly in regard to areas relating to women's issues.

My visit to Canberra happily coincided with a luncheon organised by the ACT Unit of ACW, and this allowed me the opportunity to meet with their members.

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you for allowing me the privilege of serving Australian Church Women as National President over the past two years. This has been a time of growth and challenge through new experiences in my Christian journey.

A very special thank you to all members of Executive for their loving and practical support.....particular thanks are due to our very hard-working Secretary, Marion Dodds.

I believe there is an interesting future ahead for ACW, which may see us making changes in the priorities and structures of our work amongst the women of our Churches. It is my prayer that ACW will continue to unite Christian women across denominational barriers, and strengthen its' influence within the community.

Eunice Reidy (National President)

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Victorian National Executive of ACW met regularly to plan and prepare ourselves for the task we were to undertake, prior to coming into 'office' in September 1993, so we were 'comfortable' with each other and prepared for the commitment necessary. All members have been able to apply their 'special gifts' to their specific role on executive, resulting in a smooth-running, generally efficient, always co-operative team. Many have gone the extra mile to help out with banners, bags, guidelines, minutes, artwork etc. for which we thank them. Mrs Eunice Reidy, has been an exceptional President. Her knowledge of ACW and business procedure is only surpassed by her love, care, practical help and encouragement for those around her. It has been a privilege for us all to know Eunice and to work with her. Our sincere thanks are expressed to the Victorian Council of Churches for the use of their rooms for our executive meetings. The monthly meetings have covered all facets of ACW & Conference planning, and have lasted for up to five hours. Each executive member has led us in a devotional time which has been of support and encouragement to us all.

The amount of correspondence received from government and non-government bodies is increasing and we are uncertain as to the best way to handle it all. Many require action by a specific date, and as ACW Units meet at different times and at different intervals, it is not always possible to solicit the views/support of the Units. Some issues are not clearly 'black and white', and for National Executive to speak on your behalf is not always appropriate. There are however, many occasions when it is important for the voice of the Church to be heard. Some of the bodies which have written to us during the past two years are: Office of Film & Literature Classification, Australian Law Reform Commission, Republic Advisory Committee, Australian Institute of Criminology, ATSIC & Coalition of Aboriginal Organisations, Australian Council for Women, Office of the Status of Women, Department of the Prime Minister & Cabinet re Centenary of Federation, Minister for Justice, Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission, Economic Planning Advisory Council, Australian Women's Health Network Inc., Mothers Opposing Pollution, Women with Disabilities, Amnesty International, various Political Parties and Politicians. To adequately decipher and distribute the relevant information is a large job and one which would be best done by someone who is vitally interested in these issues. It is for this reason that the National Executive recommend that a Social Justice Convener be appointed on National Executive.

Other areas which we have been concerned with include the future of the Winifred Kiek Scholarship. A consultation was held between the WKS Trustees and three members of National Executive from which recommendations have come to be dealt with at Conference. National Executive Guidelines have been updated by the relevant conveners, and the Memorial Bursary Book, which needed some clarification, has been reviewed and will be available for perusal at Conference. At the last National Conference a recommendation was made that a consultation with Aboriginal women be set up. This has taken considerable time and research in order to establish communication and direction. It is hoped that there will be some positive proposals to present at Conference. We acknowledge the work of the past and present WKS Trustees as well as that of the previous & current representatives to Asian Church Women's Conference. Your efforts are very much appreciated. We thank the Units for their confidence and support during the past two years and are confident that this same support will be given to the Incoming National Executive. We extend our good wishes to the members of the ACT Incoming National Executive as they accept this responsibility for the first time.
Marion Dodds (National Secretary)

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

TREASURER'S REPORT

I have much pleasure in presenting the Treasurer's report for the two years ending June 30th, 1995.

Our gifts to International Fellowship of the Least Coin dropped considerably in 1993, but increased to over \$30,000 in 1994.

Fellowship Day offerings to the Winifred Kiek Scholarship have remained over \$11,000 for each of the years 1993 and 1994.

World Community Day offerings to Asian Church Women for 1993 were \$5184.86. This Bank Draft (Korean Bank) was presented at the Conference in November 1994, but returned to be issued to a Japan bank as ACWC treasurer wanted to save on the exchange rate. Unfortunately Bank charges to re-purchase the draft, to re-issue and the exchange rate brought this amount below \$5,000, so the amount sent was \$5,000 for 1993 and \$5,323.39 for 1994.

To ensure that Asian Church Women's Conference Bulletins are all ordered together, Unit monies and orders need to be in the hands of the National Treasurer by 30th November each year.

National Executive paid for the National President, Secretary and Winifred Kiek Convener to meet with the WKS Trustees in Adelaide. Executive also paid for the National President to attend a CAPOW! meeting.

World Community Day Special Project offerings:-

1. 1993 was \$4,400.00 towards the Disaster Fund. Donations were:
\$1,500.00 to Care Australia - Rwanda Appeal
\$1,000.00 to Farmhand Drought Relief
\$500.00 to National Christian Council in Japan(Earthquake)

2. 1994 was \$4,723.40 which was sent to Shalom College.

I would like to thank Alison Ison for answering many questions when I rang her and for her support. My thanks to all State Unit Treasurers for their encouragement and also to the National Executive members for their patience whilst I was trying to master the cash book.

My special thanks to Peter Lenehan, the Auditor and Karen Lenehan for her advice and encouragement.

It has been a privilege which I enjoyed to be able to serve Australian Church Women as Treasurer.

My prayers and best wishes are with the incoming National Executive and I pray that God will richly bless their endeavours over the next two years.

Helen Banks (Honorary Treasurer)

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN NATIONAL EXECUTIVE
ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT - YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1994.

Balance as at 30th June, 1993. \$6165.71

RECEIPTS

ACWC Bulletins	512.50	
ACWC Partners	614.50	
WKS Memorial Bursary	350.00	
WKS Donations	58.10	
WKS Trust	3710.00	
Fellowship Day Offerings	11326.69	
Circle of Prayer	76.30	
FLC Offerings	30570.62	
Conference Travel	2012.37	
Overseas Conference Fund	850.00	
World Community Day Offerings	8874.64	
Interest	149.43	
Administration (1)	6058.08	
Sundries (2)	666.54	
Investments Redeemed	11886.08	77715.85

TOTAL INCOME

\$ 83881.56

EXPENDITURE

Stationary	109.40	
Executive Expenses	3806.20	
ACW News	851.55	
Travel	2360.00	
Administration	215.92	
FLC	24364.08	
FLC Expenses (3)	2241.14	
WKS Trust	10818.57	
WKS Fellowship	3714.00	
WKS Memorial Bursary	50.00	
WKS Expenses (4)	2240.77	
Overseas Conference	-	
National Conference	1953.00	
ACWC Bulletins	565.00	
WCD Expenses (5)	443.72	
Operation Understanding	754.00	
Sundries (6)	948.90	
Investments (7)	23050.00	78486.25

BALANCE AS AT 30th JUNE, 1994. \$ 5395.31

BANK ACCOUNT BALANCES AS AT 30th JUNE, 1994.

Cheque account	\$5395.31
Investments	<u>23050.00</u>
	<u>\$28445.31</u>

BALANCES OF DESIGNATED FUNDS
FINANCIAL STATEMENT 30/6/94

Administration	9161.47
Conference Travel	2773.00
Overseas Conference Fund	2870.46
Disaster Relief Fund	4400.00
ACWC (incl. Partners)	5000.00
Operation Understanding	298.00
Fellowship of Least Coin	3842.38
WKS Memorial Bursary	100.00
	<u>\$ 28445.31</u>

INVESTMENTS

\$5000.00 (ACWC Conference)	Due 17/8/94
4400.00 (Disaster Relief Fund)	Due 17/8/94
5000.00 (Admin. & Conf. Travel)	Due 28/9/94
3650.00 (F/ship of Least Coin)	Due 12/10/94
<u>5000.00 (Administration)</u>	Due 12/10/94
<u>\$23050.00</u>	

NOTES:

(1) INCL. 5% TRANSFERS		\$3251.08
(2) SUNDRIES: FID REFUNDS	39.07	
FLC SPOONS	183.00	
FLC POSTAGE	9.90	
TEASPOONS	244.80	
BADGES	34.50	
TAS. UNIT REFUND	88.80	
ACW MINUTES	50.00	
P/CASH BALANCE	16.47	666.54
(3) 5% TRANSFERS 1992	910.79	
1993	1330.35	2241.14
(4) INCL. 5% TRANSFERS		566.22
(5) 5% TRANSFERS		443.72
(6) SUNDRIES: ACWC REP. ALLOW	40.00	
WK TRUSTEES	250.00	
WK LEAFLETS	498.00	
FID TAX	15.90	
ACC REG/N	45.00	
ACWC BAGS	100.00	948.90
(7) SEE INVESTMENTS ABOVE		

Lulu Barker
30/6/94

(page 1)

The above financial statement has been audited and shows a true and fair view of financial results of Australian Church Women National Executive.

The above include the following items which are internal transfers.

- (1) Administration income \$3251.08
- (2) Expenses - F.L.C. expenses \$2241.14
 - WKS expenses 566.22
 - WCD expenses 443.72

Peter J. Lenehan BBus ACA
Chartered Accountant
8.2.95

(page 2)

The above financial statement has been audited and shows a true and fair view of financial results of Australian Church Women National Executive.

Peter J. Lenehan BBus ACA
Chartered Accountant
8.2.95

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN NATIONAL EXECUTIVE
ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT - YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1995.

BALANCE AS AT 30TH JUNE, 1994 \$5395.31

RECEIPTS:

ACWC Bulletins	412.00
ACWC Partners	600.00
WKS Memorial Bursary	100.00
WKS Donations	319.30
WK Trustees	100.00
Fellowship Day offerings	12144.64
Fellowship of Least Coin Offerings	31394.50
Conference Travel	983.58
Overseas Conference	5892.86
World Community Day offerings	14907.82
Interest	110.67
Sundries (1)	848.10
Investments redeemed	9907.11
	<u>77720.58</u>

TOTAL INCOME

\$ 83115.89

EXPENDITURE

Petty Cash	670.00
ACW News	1055.34
Travel	258.93
Administration	2177.33
Fellowship of Least Coin	33651.94
WKS Trust	11956.71
WKS Memorial Bursary	200.00
Overseas Conference	1841.79
National Conference	2058.10
ACWC Bulletins	404.00
World Community Day - ACWC 1993 & 94.	15508.25
World Community Day Special Project	7723.40
Sundries (2)	1203.60
	<u>78709.39</u>

BALANCE AS AT 30TH JUNE, 1995. \$ 4406.50

BANK ACCOUNT BALANCES AS AT 30TH JUNE, 1995

CHEQUE ACCOUNT	\$4406.50
INVESTMENTS	<u>8400.00</u>
	<u>\$12806.50</u>

BALANCES FOR DESIGNATED FUNDS
FINANCIAL STATEMENT - 30TH JUNE, 1995.

Administration	\$8130.84
Conference Travel	1500.65
Overseas Conference	1386.67
Disaster Fund	1400.00
Operation Understanding	298.00
ACWC Bulletins	8.00
Fellowship of Least Coin	82.34
	<u>\$12806.50</u>

INVESTMENTS

3504-5011-4945	\$1900.00	(3)	4.50%	Due 14/8/95
3504-5011-5438	1500.00	(4)	4.25%	Due 12/9/95
3504-5011-6035	<u>5000.00</u>	(5)	6.75%	Due 28/9/95
	<u>\$8400.00</u>			

INVESTMENTS - DESIGNATED FUNDS

(3)	DISASTER FUND	\$1400.00
	ADMINISTRATION	500.00
(4)	ADMINISTRATION	1500.00
(5)	ADMINISTRATION	2000.00
	NATIONAL CONFERENCE	2000.00
	OVERSEAS CONFERENCE	1000.00

JOURNAL ENTRY

5% TRANSFERS - FELLOWSHIP OF LEAST COIN	\$1759.70
WCD/SPECIAL PROJECT	497.17
WINIFRED KEIK SCHOLARSHIP	607.23
ADMINISTRATION	2864.10

NOTES:

<u>SUNDRIES</u> (1)	Circles of Prayer/Spoons	\$725.55	
	CAPOW Travel Pool	103.00	
	Postage	19.50	
	Bank adjustment	<u>-.05</u>	848.10
<u>SUNDRIES</u> (2)	FLC Leaflets	460.00	
	CAPOW	75.00	
	ACWC Bulletins	48.00	
	WKS leaflets	<u>620.60</u>	1203.60

SIGNED:

DATE:

Allen Banks
30/6/95

SPECIAL DAYS REPORT

I commend the Units for their work in promoting and publicising the Special Days Services, especially in country areas. It is encouraging to hear of the growing numbers of women (and men) who join together in ecumenical worship and fellowship.

The Australian Capital Territory Unit of Australian Church Women prepared the 1994 Fellowship Day Service on the theme "Our News is the Good News", while the World Community Day Service was written by the New South Wales Unit, the theme being "We are called to Peace".

This year saw the Tasmanian Unit prepare the recent Fellowship Day Service - "Christ's Call - Our Service". The West Australian members wrote the World Community Day Service, "World Partners, Praying and Working Together". The latter theme reminding us of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations Assembly. Appropriately the apportioned offering is to go towards equipping a medical centre and vocational training centre established by the Laos Evangelical Church in Vientiane.

It is not easy choosing suitable themes and I'm sure my successor would welcome any suggestions, and also ideas for recipients for the World Community Day Offering.

I would like to thank most sincerely all who were involved in the preparation of these services, for the time, prayer and effort that went into these diverse and meaningful services.

Most Special Days Services take place during the day, but it is good to see that there are some in the evening and at least one I know of that takes the form of a prayer breakfast.

A set of guidelines has been prepared, one for Fellowship Day and one for World Community Day, and are sent out with the invitation to write the service.

When preparing orders of service, please be aware of the need for care, that the words used are inclusive rather than exclusive in their meaning.

My prayers are with the Incoming Special Days Convener and Members of National Executive, and I wish them God's blessing and guidance during the next two years.

Heather Boatman (Special Days Convener)

FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN

It is with great pleasure that I present this Report of the Fellowship of the Least Coin in Australia for the past two years. I thank God that He has given me the privilege to serve Him in this way, as it has proved to be a blessed and interesting experience. I have learnt to send 'faxes', cope with Customs, work the word processor on the computer, as well as writing and receiving many letters and parcels from Hong Kong.

My many thanks to those who have encouraged and co-operated with me in so many ways. The Unit Conveners need special thanks from us all as they are the ones who so faithfully do the promotion to keep the movement alive and growing. It is of interest to know that in Queensland the Convener averages three speaking engagements a month, travelling as far North as Mackay, and South to the border well west of the Dividing Range. In South Australia the Convener accepted many invitations to speak about FLC in both city and country. In New South Wales a special effort was made to promote FLC by the Unit and many members of the Council and Executive had the opportunity of speaking to various groups. In Western Australia the promotion of FLC has continued with groups in Busselton and Bunbury as well as Perth, have contributed to FLC. In Tasmania FLC has become more widely known among the Church groups since the National Executive was there in 1992/3 and groups in many towns and settlements from far country areas are now contributing. In the ACT the FLC has continued to be promoted and the Convener there has been pleased to become more aware of the movement herself. In Victoria there have been speaking engagements and promotion of FLC at the World Community Day Services. An effort is made to promote FLC in Darwin and Alice Springs, but there is little feedback. In 1993 the FLC Offerings were down on the previous year, but 1994 showed an increase of the two preceding years.

In 1993 the National Committee applied for a Grant (\$6000) for the Kuri Ngai Project in New South Wales, was accepted, and in 1994 two Grants were applied for and accepted - both in Queensland, a YWCA Mail Bag Club (\$500) and to Shalom College (\$5000). This year two applications for Grants have been made, one being for a Project regarding the production of Aboriginal Handcrafts in North Western Australia, and the other for Leadership Training of the Girls' Brigade in New South Wales. It will be towards the end of the year before we hear of their success or not.

It is not always realised that the Circle of Prayer Booklets come approximately every two years. It was with relief that we received Vol.13 at the end of 1994. They are now being produced in Kenya, East Africa. Next year will be the 40th Anniversary of the FLC and a special edition of the Circle of Prayer will be available.

A special "flyer" was produced as a result of a resolution at the National Conference for inclusion in the World Community Day Services in 1994. It was well received. This year a new leaflet produced by Shirin Samuel is being sent to each Unit for inclusion in the World Community Day Services. It has very basic information on it, and pictures to add interest.

May God richly bless the incoming National Convener of FLC as she serves and encourages us, and I am sure she will find the task rewarding and enjoyable as those before her have done.

Margaret Wall (National Convener of FLC)

PUBLICATIONS REPORT

Major Elaine Johnson produced a most interesting Newsletter for 15 months before she was transferred to Adelaide with her work.

This was a very real disappointment to the National Executive because Elaine was a most efficient editor and a good friend. Her Newsletters shared information of women's activities in the Church and para-Church groups from around Australia and the world.

Since January, the National Executive decided not to appoint another Publications Editor, but that it would be shared by the Executive in bi-monthly editions.

Those taking on responsibility for the editorship in 1995 have been Lynette Green, Barbara Lacy, Marion Dodds and Eunice Reidy.

The National Executive thank all Units and individuals who contributed articles for inclusion in the Newsletter and Major Elaine Johnson for her valued service in 1993-1994.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES REPORT

There has been very little movement on the Archives Front in the two years under review.

I have received Treasurer's books and correspondence from Mrs (now Rev.) Elizabeth Walker, National Treasurer 1990-1991. These were not her books, but some given to her when she took office and date from 1973.

At the conclusion of this Conference I would expect to be given papers, books etc. no longer required to be held by the current executive.

The Archives are still housed where I live, an arrangement that does not inconvenience me at this time. Examination of the materials in the 'filing cabinet' tells me that there has been no damage nor deterioration to any of the papers, photos etc.

Although I have not been asked to search for information by State Unit members during the last two years, there is always the possibility that some one will need some information from the Archives. With this in mind, I would be prepared to open discussion about the possibility of moving the material to Canberra if it were possible for the Archivist to be a member of the A.C.T. Unit. In the future, we may be able to have a permanent Secretary or Secretariat in A.C.T. and it would be logical for that person to also take care of the Archives.

I was able to reply to a question about the best way of preserving material in a scrap book, owned by one of the Units. For the information I passed on, I am grateful to Rev. Eric Clancy (then) Archivist for the Uniting Church, N.S.W. Synod.

I received an inquiry from a State Unit about putting some state material into the National Archives. At the present time, there is not sufficient room to be able to do this for State Units. I would hope that all State Units have made provision for retaining their records in a safe place in their own state.

At the time of the death of national Life Member Mrs Mabel Wylie, I had a very interesting conversation with Life Member Mrs Marjorie Verco. People like Mrs Verco and Deaconess Mary Andrews are wonderful sources of verbal history. We should be writing down these remembrances and facts pertaining to our beginnings while we can still draw on such memories from the people who were there. Undoubtably the facts are in the early minute books of A.C.W. but the conversation I had with Mrs Verco made it all 'come alive'.

In N.S.W. we farewelled Mrs Win Dougherty, State Life Member and former National President, who died in December 1994. The tribute paid at her memorial service by Mrs Margaret Ralph enlightened many people at that service not only about Win Dougherty, but also about A.C.W. I would hope that all State Units might also record some oral history of their State beginnings and highlights.

I present this report with pleasure.

Edith Ridge (National Archivist)

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP REPORT

The past two years have been a period of change in the organisation of the Winifred Kiek Scholarship, following the decisions of the A.C.W. National Conference in Tasmania in 1993.

My task as national Convener has been lightened on the one hand, as the Trustees assumed responsibility for the travel arrangements and the organisation of training programs for the scholar. This has freed me to do some much-needed sorting and re-organising of historical data relating to the Winifred Kiek Scholarship.

The re-writing of the Guidelines for the W.K. Scholarship was another major task.

I believe that previous W.K. National Conveners have had an extremely difficult and arduous task, and I would like to commend them for their dedication. I would also like to affirm the wisdom of the changes made at the last conference.

In October 1994, three members of the National executive, (Pres. Sec. and W.K. National Convener) met over two days with the Trustees in Adelaide, to make the final choice of the Scholars for 1995.

At this meeting we also discussed the on-going and repetitive difficulties relating to the Winifred Kiek Scholarship. These included

- (i) difficulties relating to communication, both with the nominating country and the individual Scholar.
- (ii) difficulties encountered in obtaining Visas.
- (iii) our questioning of the relevance of training opportunities available in Australia for our overseas Scholars.
- (iv) our questioning also of how beneficial was the experience for a number of our Scholars.

As a result of these discussions we will present to you proposals for further changes to the Guidelines for the Winifred Kiek Scholarship at this Conference, which we hope will take us into the next century.

We believe that our proposals retain the spirit of the dream of Winifred Kiek, in so far as women will be encouraged and supported financially in their training for ministry, both Lay and Ordained.

The Winifred Kiek Scholarship will take a new direction, but we believe it could be more appropriate and more beneficial to the Scholar in our present changing world situation.

I wish to thank all those who have supported and encouraged me over these two years, and I wish the incoming National Convener and all members of the new National Executive, enrichment and blessings during their two years of office.

Joan Cooper (National Convener, W.K.S.)

REPORT OF WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP TRUST

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting the report of the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Trust for the period 1993-95.

SCHOLARSHIP

It was a delight to have Malai Mahamaneerat, 1993 Scholar and Mary Au, 1993 Fellow and 1980 Scholar present at the last Conference. While we can never know the true value of a scholarship to the holder or to those with whom she works, we would all regard the 1993 scholarship as a very successful one.

The 1994 Scholar Nighat Gulzar of Pakistan spent her time in Adelaide, and appreciated the opportunity to develop her skills. The different environment in which she lived and worked were something of a surprise to her and occasionally provided difficulties. The Trustees valued having Nighat in Adelaide as they were learning new skills in the organisation of the scholarship. We learnt many things during that period.

Arrangements for the 1995 Scholarship have had their difficulties. Two scholarships were awarded - to Mrs Captain Lily Politini of Fiji to attend the World Convention of the WCTU in Melbourne and spend a short time with the Victorian Unit; and to Miss Rachel Rolland of Vanuatu to attend the TIMAL College in Rabaul for the Women's leadership training course. We thank the Victorian Unit for hosting Mrs Captain Politini and arranging a very worthwhile programme for her after the Convention.

Rachel Rolland has not been able to take up her course because of the volcanic eruption in Rabaul. As it was not possible to find a suitable alternate course it was agreed that Rachel could defer until 1996.

FELLOWSHIP

Rev Violet Sampa-Bredt of Zambia the 1971 scholar was awarded a Fellowship in 1993 to allow her to extend her visit in New South Wales and Queensland. She was in Australia to assist in the launch of the Christmas Bowl in NSW.

A Fellowship has been given to Mrs Janice Shearer, Church Women United, Aotearoa/New Zealand, to enable her to attend the 1995 Conference and share with our members. We see this as one way of helping to build bridges with our sister organisation.

GENERAL

The Trustees have found themselves continually facing difficulties in endeavouring to provide meaningful assistance to those we seek to help through offering scholarships. We need to be good stewards of the gifts given to provide the scholarship, and we need to be sure that the scholars are given the best opportunity. We were very pleased to meet with members of the National Executive to discuss future directions and wholeheartedly endorse the recommendations being presented to Conference.

PERSONNEL

Two new Trustees were appointed following the last Conference - Mrs Jess Horton and Mrs Dorothy Ferrier. They took up office in January 1994. Due to her impending departure from Adelaide Sister Margaret Knagge tendered her resignation in August 1994. She made a wonderful contribution during her time as a Trustee. We have welcomed Mrs Marita Hawkins in her place.

Two Trustees Jan Gifford and Dorothy Haensel complete their second term at the end of this year. It will therefore be necessary to appoint two new Trustees at Conference.

THANK YOU

The Trustees express their appreciation to Joan Cooper, WKS National Convener, Eunice Reidy, National President, Marion Dodds, National Secretary for their support and contribution during the past two years. Thank you to all Units, particularly to WKS State Conveners who have assisted Scholars and Fellows.

Dorothy Ferrier, Jan Gifford, Marita Hawkins, Jess Horton, Dorothy Haensel
Trustees, June 1995

ASIAN CHURCH WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

At the 1993 ACW Conference in Tasmania, the delegation to represent Australia at the 1994 Asian Church Women's Conference was put to the vote. Those elected were: Lynette Green, National Representative 1994-98, Barbara Lacy, Lucelle King and Shirley Brooks. Also in the delegation would be Margaret Napier, National Representative 1990-94, and Joan Tong who was a member of the General Committee.

Margaret Napier, as ACWC Assembly Secretary, had meetings and conferences to attend overseas and this kept her very busy culminating in the Assembly itself. Margaret represented Australia extremely well and we can be proud of her contribution to the Executive of ACWC.

The Assembly, held in Taiwan in November 1994, was attended by 127 women from Asia and other countries. The International Committee of The Fellowship of the Least Coin attended the Assembly and met for their own meeting which was held immediately following the Assembly.

A detailed report, along with the Assembly Statement, was sent to all Units and it was pleasing to hear that some Units had made copies for their members to take home and read at leisure. It is my intention to keep all Units informed of the implementation of those articles in the Statement which require special attention and action. There may be suggestions of how we can be involved in our own community to bring about changes or raise awareness.

At the election of office bearers for the next quadrennial, Joan Tong was elected as a member of the Executive of Asian Church Women's Conference. We congratulate Joan on this appointment. She has already been to an Executive meeting in Manila in 1995. We can look forward to **projects** set up and supported by ACWC rather than the many consultations which have taken prominent place in the past.

There has been a new Executive Secretary appointed. Iluminda Domingo commenced her assignment following the Assembly. She is now responsible for the production of "The Asian Church Woman" which has been re-named "ACWC Newsletter" and appears in a different format. She would like it to be a forum for discussion letters, poems, songs, articles about issues contributed from the Asian region. The two volumes to date have provided interesting and challenging reading. Any articles you may wish to send will be forwarded without delay to Iluminda.

Thank you to the National Executive, based in Melbourne, who have been most helpful and supportive of our interest and involvement in Asian Church Women's Conference, and I look forward to working with the National Executive, based in ACT, for the next two years.

Lynette J. Green (National Representative, Asian Church Women's Conference)

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN - WA UNIT REPORT

Since the last National Conference the members of the Western Australia Unit have met ten times each year under the Presidency of Lady Wilson (Leila). During our meetings members share denominational news which leads to a greater understanding and knowledge of the churches and organisations we represent, resulting in happy and rewarding friendships and witness.

Delegates and observers attend meetings of the World Day of Prayer, National Council of Women and the W.A. Conference of Churches.

The W.A. Unit averages twelve in attendance at each meeting, and does not have any suburban or country branches.

A Community Lunch was held in 1994; half of the proceeds went to the Travel Fund and half to Cottage Hospice. Also in 1994 several members travelled to the country (Bunbury) to meet and have fellowship with the Women's Inter-Church Committee there. It is hoped to continue this in 1995 with a visit to Wongan Hills (approx. 200 kms inland from Perth) already planned.

A challenging speaker at one of our meetings was the Migrant and Refugee Services Consultant (NCCA) who works from the W.A. Conference of Churches office. She spoke of a need to establish a Travel Fund to assist families of Refugees already in Australia.

We were happy to have Mrs. Woranut Pantupong come to our Unit meeting in February 1995. Woranut was on her way home to Thailand and it was good to meet her and hear of her work there.

A valued member of our Unit for eight years, Daphne Jeffrey, has moved to Canberra. A farewell dinner with ACW members and spouses was held at the home of Margaret Napier, and this proved to be a very happy and enjoyable social time.

SPECIAL DAYS: World Community and Fellowship Days have been held in Perth and six suburban and country areas, and appreciation is always expressed for the opportunity of ecumenical worship and fellowship. Because of the rising costs for us to use some city churches, preparations are now in hand to hold separate Services in the northern and southern suburbs.

FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN: (Convener Mrs. Carmen Suvundra) Interest is maintained in this Movement by the two newsletters sent out each year to all affiliated groups where participation is observed by prayer and the giving of the 'least coins'. Carmen arranges the World Community Day Service and is also available to speak to Groups.

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP: (Convener Mrs. Vera Wilson) Vera arranges the Fellowship Day Services, and very enthusiastically keeps us informed on the Scholarship and Scholars.

ASIAN CHURCH WOMEN'S CONFERENCE: We were fortunate that Margaret Napier, in her term of Office of A.C.W.C., was able to give us information, and share her experiences of the Conference Meetings on her visits to several Asian countries. Being in the West, we feel our isolation at times and it was good to have one of our members able to share personal - on the ground - stories with us, and it gave us a better insight into the work and witness of A.C.W.C. Margaret has continued to speak to women's groups about her experiences in Asia.

PUBLICITY: The small introductory leaflet is proving very rewarding. We endeavour to publicise our Special Days in the different Church newspapers. Owing to illness, Shirley Sharpe had to relinquish the task of Publicity Convener, and our thanks go to Shirley for her previous input.

We are grateful to the W.A. Conference of Churches for the use of their Board Room and of facilities for our Meetings.

We wish to thank the members on the National Committee for their commitment during the past two years, and the happy relationships they have enjoyed with the States.

Janet Watts (Secretary)

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN - SA UNIT REPORT

Under the gracious leadership of President Mrs. Margaret Greenslade, the members of the South Australian Unit of Australian Church Women continue to enjoy warm ecumenical fellowship, building friendship and increased understanding between women of different denominations.

At the beginning of 1994 a special meeting was called to assess our Unit and to look at future directions. As a result broader participation from denominations and branches in monthly meetings has been encouraged and has occurred. In particular, the devotions led by a different denomination at each meeting have given the opportunity to share different insights and blessings, all of which however are based on our common faith in Jesus Christ, the touchstone in our relationship with God and with each other. As an extension to this sharing, the 1995 year began with a "Getting to Know You" meeting, which revealed the varied lives and avenues of Christian service of our members.

Speakers at Unit meetings continue to inspire and challenge us. Subjects have included industrial chaplaincy, Christian ministry in Russia, work with women prisoners and their families, the (then) Australian Council of Churches, and efforts to ban the use of Land mines as weapons of war. We have shared a Bible study together, and in September will hear from an ethnic church group. Our Unit was pleased to host the 1994 Winifred Kiek Scholar Miss Nighat Gulzar of Pakistan, and after her return home, to receive news and photographs of her wedding in November. We are delighted that Mrs. Athalie Ford, a granddaughter of Rev. Winifred Kiek, has accepted appointment this year as our Unit's WKS Convener.

The Fellowship of the Least Coin draws us into prayer and fellowship with women of other countries. Our FLC Convener welcomes opportunities to speak on FLC to interested groups, and in coming months will visit country areas with other members of Executive to publicise FLC and other aspects of ACW. Fellowship Day, World Community Day and World Day of Prayer services continue to be held in metropolitan and country venues.

In 1994 the SA Unit's Community Concern morning teas raised \$2,100 for, and helped to increase knowledge and understanding of the Parkinson's Syndrome Society. This year the morning teas are supporting and publicising the Unit's Jubilee 150 Trust. Interest on the Trust's capital is used to fund grants to assist needy women nominated by Christian groups. In May, Chairperson Mrs. Margaret Chittleborough resigned after 10 years as a J150 Trustee. Her service has been greatly appreciated by the Unit. A second J150 Commemorative Book is being prepared, entries for which close in November.

ACW in South Australia was blessed by the dedicated and loyal service of Miss Grace Simms, longstanding member of the SA Unit Executive, who died in January 1995. Other outstanding members of our Unit who passed away in the last 2 years were Mesdames Pauline Crosby, Sheila Hart, Myrtle Wood and Eugenie Johns. All have inspired our Unit through their lives of faithful service. Plans are underway for the SA Unit's 60th birthday celebrations in May 1996 and a sub-committee is collating a brief history of the Unit in preparation for this event.

Meanwhile, we express to the members of national Executive our sincere appreciation for their very efficient and caring leadership over the past two years. We look forward with anticipation to National Conference in August, knowing it will be a time of fruitful fellowship, challenges and blessings. We praise God for the gift of His Holy Spirit, who leads us into growing love and unity, as we work and worship together and seek to serve Him.

Lois Harris (Secretary)

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN - TASMANIAN UNIT REPORT

In my third year as State Secretary, I offer my report to National Conference.

As usual it has been a busy two years. Fellowship Day and Community Days were well attended in 1993 and 1994. The fellowship and sharing was emphasised over afternoon tea.

Fellowship Day this year will be held on 31 July 1995 at Church of Christ. The theme "Christ's Call - Our Service" was prepared by Tasmanian Unit.

Bi-monthly meetings, although with poor attendance, have with God's Blessings, since the Annual Meeting, formed new committees in some areas, and shows much more enthusiasm.

Reports come in from Branches with Special Days Service having main focus. Members also help with charitable works, visiting hospitals and aged homes residents.

Writing letters and signing petitions of concern being sent off to politicians. Of particular interest have been Women's Pension Age and the Cleo Sex Supplement (The Private Sex Act).

We receive each year crocheted collars, cushion covers etc from Jehovah Sharma Children's Home, India. Monies received is returned to further their work. Mrs Shirley Brooks attended the ACWC Assembly in Taiwan as an observer.

Bursary Book entries from Tasmania are Mrs Effie McCormack (deceased) of Devonport, and Mrs Roma Hickman of Hobart.

We welcome with love our new State President Mrs Joanne Harries of Salvation Army, Devonport, and 1st Vice President Mrs Deidre Hunter of Ilfraville to our Executive for ensuing two years.

Our appreciation was extended to retiring President Mrs Elaine Holmes and best wishes for future.

Thank you to Australian Church Women Tas Unit for your love and support. There is always a feeling of God's love among us all.

God Bless.

Mrs Fay McCormack (State Secretary)

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN - VICTORIAN UNIT

I am pleased to present the report of the Victorian Unit for 1993-1995.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

At our bi-monthly meetings which are attended by an average of forty members, we are led in prayer and worship by our President. Five Minute Focus has been given by each denomination and has provided insights on church activities. Speakers have addressed our meetings on varied topics including Prison Ministries, Organ Transplants, Social Justice, Women's Issues, Youth Ministry and have provided a source of information and learning.

SPECIAL DAYS

Approximately 2,000 Orders of Service have been distributed for both Fellowship and Community Days to many city and country centres. Where possible our members have shared in these services.

QUIET DAYS

These have been hosted each year by the incoming President and have provided an opportunity for prayerful reflection and fellowship.

DELEGATES

Our unit has been represented on National Council of Women, Victorian Council of Churches, and World Day of Prayer. Delegates have presented reports to our meetings keeping members informed and involved.

FILM DAYS have provided an opportunity for entertainment and enabled us to increase our funds.

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARS

Our members have been able to meet with our scholars Malai Mahamaneerat 1993, Nighat Gulzar 1994 and Lily Politini 1995. These meetings have been a source of inspiration to us all and we trust that our scholars are able to use their training to help others in their own countries.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE AND EXECUTIVE

A number of members travelled to Tasmania in 1993 for the national Conference. It was a most rewarding experience. Those present had the privilege of seeing members of our unit installed as the National Executive for 1993 - 1995. We are grateful to these ladies for accepting this task and congratulate them on the work they have done to promote A.C.W. on the National level. We have had the National Executive in our thoughts and prayers throughout this time and wish them every blessing for a successful Conference.

Thanks are extended to all who have assisted with the work of the Unit, our Presidents Mrs. Jean Rose, Mrs. Helen Hall and Mrs. Carmel Blanton, the Executive and Council members and all who have helped in any way to foster the work of A.C.W.

Joan Maher (Secretary)

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN - ACT UNIT REPORT

We have pleasure in presenting this, our biennial report.

MEMBERSHIP/MEETINGS:

Membership remained stable with 34 financial affiliates. An invitation to affiliate was extended to both YWCA and the Girls' Brigade but neither organisation has responded.

The Unit is presently giving consideration to amending its constitution to include Associate Membership whereby former delegates may continue to be involved as Associate Members.

Two Life Memberships were bestowed at the 1995 Annual General Meeting. Stella Taber was honoured for distinguished Service, particularly as Winifred Kiek Scholarship Convener. Evonne Sullivan was recognised for 17 years of Executive commitment - 5 years as Honorary Secretary, Vice President to 4 Presidents and as Unit President 1993 - 1995.

Sadly we record the passing of three respected delegates - Mrs Rose Douglas, Mrs Nan Munro and Mrs Pat Taylor-Rogers. The name of Mrs Pat Taylor-Rogers, Life Member, former President and inaugural member of the ACT Unit, was submitted for inclusion in the ACW Memorial Bursary Book.

The appointment of Betty Laurie as the Unit's Special Days convener lightened the load of our Honorary Secretary as she liaises with the affiliated organisations who host the Special Days services.

A community grant of \$500 from the Canberra Southern Cross Club provided a welcome addition to the Unit's travel fund.

Unit meetings were held quarterly and regular executive meetings were held. Four newsletters were published each year.

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARS/VISITORS:

We were pleased to host visits to Canberra of the 1993 scholar, Malai Mahamaneerat and the 1994 scholar Nighat Gulzar. It was also a pleasure to welcome to one of our meetings, WA Unit Secretary Vera Wilson. A visit to Canberra of National President, Eunice Reidy coincided with a farewell luncheon arranged in honour of Joan Adcock a former president of the Unit. Members were delighted to welcome Eunice on this occasion.

SPECIAL DAYS/SPECIAL EVENTS:

Special Days services, including 3 World Day of Prayer services each year were well organised and attracted large attendances. Of special significance was the 1994 Fellowship Day service which had been prepared by ACT Unit. Luncheons which followed the services provided excellent opportunity for fellowship.

The 1993 International Year of Indigenous People was observed by inviting a prominent member of the Canberra Aboriginal Community to address a Unit meeting.

To mark the 1994 International Year of the Family, ACT Unit members prepared and presented an ecumenical service which was well attended. Several local politicians accepted the invitation to be present.

REPRESENTATION:

The Unit is affiliated with National Council of Women of ACT and the ACT Churches Council. Many local functions were attended by various members. Unit President, Evonne Sullivan represented National President Eunice Reidy at National functions on a number of occasions.

ACW was well represented at the National Parliamentary Prayer breakfasts held in Canberra also the International Women's Day breakfasts.

CONCLUSION:

This report would be incomplete without an expression of sincere appreciation to the members of the retiring National Executive. It has been a delight to work with them and we will find their shoes hard to fill!

Betty Farrell - (President)

Beth Webb - (Honorary Secretary)

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN - NSW UNIT REPORT

There has been a great deal of activity in the NSW Unit during the past two years. The "Strategic Forward Planning" project set in motion a programme of publicity and promotion that has come to fruition in 1994 with a number of new areas commencing either one or both Special Day's services.

Activities of the Unit have included:

*****Spiritual Enrichment days - these days have been planned to a theme, with speakers, music and refreshments. (From 9.30am - 3.00pm)

*****Ecumenical Luncheons - these have included a speaker, music, and lunch. (From 11.00am - 2.00pm)

*****Information Days - members of the executive and council have travelled to an area where information about ACW has been requested and spoken about the days and projects to women of the local area. (These days have resulted in the commencement of Special Days in some of these areas.)

*****A State Conference - April 1994. This was a very stimulating and challenging two days. Conference was either live-in or day by day. Speakers included Marlene Goldsmith MLC, Rev. David Gill - Exec. Secretary ACC, Rev. Dr. Ray Williamson - Exec. Secretary Ecumenical Council NSW, Julie Brackenreg - State Commissioner Girls' Brigade (NSW). The theme - "CHRISTIAN FOCUS ON THE FAMILY" was used throughout, for devotional messages, Bible studies and lectures.

Conveners have put a lot of energy and enthusiasm into their work, promoting Fellowship of the Least Coin, the Winifred Kiek Scholarship, Fellowship Day and World Community Day, and the Asian Church Women's Conference. The addition of a Social Issues Convener following the State Conference has added a lot of colour and motivation to our unit's work. As we are informed of the issues that Christian people ought to be involved with, we have been able to seek further education and information, to write letters, attend seminars and meetings and generally become a "voice" for ACW. A Special Functions Convener organises our ecumenical luncheons, information days, spiritual enrichment days and the state conference, which we will now hold on the alternative year to the national conference.

The president and other office bearers have represented ACW at many functions, for both church and community, as well as government and civic meetings.

Representatives of the unit serve on National Council of Women, World Day of Prayer, NSW Council for Children's Films and Television, and the NSW Ecumenical Council.

Finances of the unit have benefited by the special functions that have been held, trading tables at meetings, luncheons, special days, and the sale of promotional items for ACW - Pens, Tea Towels, Spoons, Badges, Key Rings. We face the unhappy task of acknowledging a discrepancy in our system, resulting in the request to branches to either open an account for ACW monies or to bank directly through the state unit. The treasurer gave a very positive lead during this difficult period. We believe in using as much of our funds as possible for publicity and promotion.

Council and executive meetings are held monthly. These are full of energy and direction. We are creating more interest among our affiliated groups and denominations. God is to be praised for the good work He has given us to do. Two good presidents have led us during this period, and the state's practice of rotating the presidency around the participating denominations will see another change in April 1996. These women are appointed by their denomination. All other positions on the executive are open for nomination, and voting is done at the AGM each April.

May God continue to guide us and to give us grace to do His will.

Joan Tong (Secretary)

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN - QUEENSLAND UNIT REPORT

Greetings from the Queensland Unit to all members gathered in Melbourne for the Australian Church Women's National Conference and our prayers are offered for the success of this Conference as we gather in love, friendships, harmony and goodwill. Meetings are held monthly an average of 15 members attending. Mrs. Ailsa Skippen (Anglican) led us for the first year and our sincere thanks to Ailsa for her commitment, friendships & leadership during her term of office. Mrs. Terry Reeves (Catholic Women's League) is at present in the chair.

COMMUNITY DAYS: 1993 was held at the Albert St. Uniting Church and was well attended. Mrs. Agnes Whiten, Women's Adviser to the Catholic Archbishop, was guest speaker. Rev. Helen Mills dedicated our new Banner which was designed and made by Mrs. Anne Green our FLC Convener. 1994 saw Deaconess Di Yates, Chaplain to St. Andrews Hospital rendering a very moving address.

FELLOWSHIP DAYS: 1994 was held at the Salvation Army Temple, our guest speaker Mrs. Margo Heyburn (Youth for Christ) was very entertaining and well received. The Salvation Army Choir led by Mrs. Anne Flemming helped to make the morning perfect. 1995 Service will again be held at the Salvation Army Temple and Mrs. Pam Whebell, Uniting Church will be our guest speaker. Musical Morning Teas to help with our travel fund have still proved very successful. All our members rally together to make this an enjoyable occasion. The Welsh singers entertained all in 1994. 1995 saw the Sherwood singers take the stage and Mrs. Green Stratton, World President of the Christian Woman's Temperance Union was our guest. Congratulations must go to our three conveners for their dedication & work in these positions.

ANNE GREEN, FLC has travelled far and wide promoting FLC, meeting and praying with so many devoted ladies.

MARGARET FLORENCE, SPECIAL DAYS does a marvellous job keeping us well informed and arranging these days. She is also our representative on Queensland Churches together.

MARLEN BEHAN, MKS helped to arrange the two visits of the past Winifred Kiek Scholars Rev. Mary Au & Rev. Violet Sampa Bredt last year. Each was well received and entertained by our members. Invitations are received to attend the Annual General Meetings and functions of most Church groups and where possible we send a representative.

One of our past Queensland Presidents, Mrs. Beryl Wiltshire received the honour of being named Queensland Mother of the Year. The continued support of our three Country Branches, Bundaberg, Rockhampton and Mackay, is much appreciated. Sincere thanks and congratulations to the Melbourne Unit for the work and time put in organising this Conference, and all God's Blessings to Australian Capital Territory unit during the next two years.

Val Van de Wiel (Secretary)

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN AUSTRALIA

AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

In September 1993 the national Conference was held in Melbourne. Over 300 women from around Australia met together for a day of worship, inspiration and fellowship. The delegates from each state, with the endorsement of the other women gathered, commenced a new structure to co-ordinate the work of women throughout Australia. Since that time, Marj Dredge from South Australia has been the President of ACWF, with the Executive Committee, based in Melbourne, being responsible for the secretarial, financial and overall working of the organisation. Eunice Reidy is the liaison officer and we have appreciated her wisdom and gracious leadership at our Executive meetings.

'Footnotes', a journal produced each three months, has attempted to keep the states in touch with each other. Newsletters sent from the states help to keep Executive informed of the different activities that women are involved in. Each state varies considerably in their approach to their women's ministry, but the message of God's love and grace continues to be the motivating force behind each initiative, and for this we give thanks. Members of CWF are involved in para church, ecumenical and community activities and in this way have opportunities to express God's love and compassion for people everywhere.

Marj Dredge had the opportunity last year to attend the I.C.W.F. Quadrennial Assembly in Indiana USA. For 5 days, Marj shared with around 400 women from 20 countries what it means to 'Be The Vision'.

The challenge for us all is that we can speak out for justice and fairness and we can do our best to fulfil God's vision for the world. The W.C.W.F. project to 'End Child Prostitution in Asian Tourism' continues to maintain a level of interest and support and has had quite an impact on our society. Helen Banks has represented Australia on W.C.W.F. for the past three years.

'THE 2000 WOMAN - BE THE VISION', is the theme for a National Gathering for women (and men) to be held in Adelaide in September 1995. A very enthusiastic team led by Marj Dredge, are planning a weekend of bible study, worship, electives and some relaxation. The response has been very encouraging. Also during this Gathering, the Executive of ACWF will meet with state representatives to further discuss and determine the future direction for ACWF as we move toward the year 2000. As God has faithfully led us in the past, so we can trust Him to guide us into the future.

Eleanor Roberts (Secretary)

THE MOTHERS' UNION IN AUSTRALIA

The Mothers' Union in Australia has an active membership of approximately 11,000 in over 650 branches throughout the 24 Anglican dioceses, all of whom are committed to our Purpose... 'to be specially concerned with all that strengthens and preserves marriage and Christian family life.' Membership is open to all those who are baptised in the name of the Holy Trinity and who declare their support for the Aim and Objects of this Society which began in England 120 years ago. Membership is not restricted to Anglicans, women or those who are married, and there are now about 40 men members here in Australia.

The Mothers' Union is a worldwide fellowship of prayer, worship and service with nearly 750,000 members linked together by a Wave of Prayer. Recent changes to the central structure, and a meeting in 1993 of MU leaders from many countries, have emphasised the international nature of the fellowship and increased members' awareness of the Body of Christ around the world, and the need for partnership and mutual support.

Members come together for prayer, worship, Bible study, discussion, learning and fellowship, and are involved in many aspects of service to others - both inside and outside the Church. Hospital and other visiting, baptism and bereavement visiting, and involvement in other caring ministries are an important part of the service of MU members. Of particular interest is the Coffee and Care programme in both Children's and Family Courts in many areas, and the special ministry to maternity and neo-natal units in Sydney and many other cities.

During the International Year of the Family in 1994 many special events were organised by MU, members attended Consultations and several submissions were made to the National IYF Council. MU at national and diocesan level is actively involved in our 4th Object to promote conditions in society favourable to stable family life and the protection of children.

The media Awareness Project Australia (MAPA) is a programme designed to improve awareness and understanding of the media and its effects on society, and to encourage evaluation of and dialogue with the media in its various forms. Ecumenical and community involvement is part of the aim of MAPA and there has been good co-operation in some areas.

The Mothers' Union in Australia, now in its second century, is very aware that modern society places particular stress on marriage and family. Members are encouraged to share their concerns about the inevitable tensions between the traditional Christian ideals of marriage and family life and the realities of life in which we find ourselves. Prayer, fellowship and mutual support help members in their own situations, and in reaching out to others within the Church and beyond. The Centenary theme in 1992, New Century - New Vision, continues to be a challenge to every member as each seeks to follow the call to Christian discipleship.

Elizabeth Appleby (Australian President.)

THE SALVATION ARMY. AUSTRALIA SOUTHERN TERRITORY

One of the Salvation Army's co founders was Catherine Booth and she set the pace for women to be involved in ministry in the Army. The East End of London, where the movement started, had an enormous amount of poverty-stricken women struggling to bring up families while dad drank away the meagre income and so the Army has also been heavily involved in ministry to women and, in turn, their families.

In 1995 the Army still has a department devoted to "Ministries to Women", headed up (in the Southern Territory) by Major Jocelyn Knapp. Under the auspices of that department run a number of programmes.

The Home League (which is known worldwide) is the traditional weekly women's meeting which may now be held locally under a variety of names. Coffee mornings, craft groups, playgroups, aerobics, Bible studies, evening fellowships for working women, fund raising for missionary projects are all part of this "Ministries to Women" umbrella, where women minister to women and also receive appropriate ministry.

Outside of that specific women's department there are other speciality programmes for women, run by women. The Salvation Army has one of the very few rehabilitation programmes where women with addiction problems can live in, with their children, and get their lives into perspective. Lieut-Colonel Heather Allott heads up Bridge Haven, in Melbourne, which provides a service much in demand.

Captain Jenny Begent runs one of the most widely acclaimed women's refuges in Victoria, while Lieut Robyn Fernihough, Captain Sophia Gibb and Major Sylvia Gray are involved in ministry with women and children going through the courts and ending up in women's prisons. Lieut-Colonel Beryl Golding has won a scholarship to look at the problems of homeless women in the USA and Europe. The list could go on, but these are just examples of Salvation Army women who find themselves in ministry to women. Both through its churches and its social programmes women find a level of ministry, whether it be by preaching, administration or practical service. And in turn numerous women find new hope and security through the ministry of the Salvation Army.

SALVATION ARMY. AUSTRALIA EASTERN TERRITORY

There are 347 women's ministries groups functioning in the Eastern Territory, and creative and innovative programs are being used to produce effective results: e.g.

SPUD	Single parents united development
GO	Girls only
LEGS	Ladies exercise group
AWOL	Amazing women out living
WIF	Women in focus

FOCUS ON THE FAMILY and HEALING FOR DAMAGED EMOTIONS are two other groups that have commenced. As well as the foregoing, there are the regular weekly or monthly meetings of the Home League and Evening Fellowship. While the traditional Home League membership has declined in recent years, the women's ministry groups continue to prove the effectiveness of this work.

An amazing amount of money is raised by the women's ministries groups each year for projects both at home and overseas. It is worth noting that in 1994 some \$285,200 was raised by the various groups. Considering that Australia is suffering both economically and from the effect of the drought, this is a remarkable achievement.

The sixth TERRITORIAL WOMEN'S BIBLE CONVENTION was held at the Collaroy Conference Centre in February. Due to the overwhelming response in 1994 when 150 women were unable to attend because the 'inn was full', in 1995 it was decided to hold two consecutive weekends following the same program. Faith was rewarded as some 700 women responded, and the Bible Study leaders,

SALVATION ARMY, AUSTRALIA EASTERN TERRITORY (continued)

Commissioners John & Freda Larsson brought the messages related to the theme: WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT?

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN is supported by our territorial and divisional leaders in NSW and Queensland. There is good representation of Salvation Army ladies on both state councils, and in local areas the women of our denomination are encouraged to participate in the functions and projects of ACW.

The world secretary of Women's Organisations, Commissioner Wilma Maxwell says, "It is important to maintain the program as there are many lonely elderly women in our communities who could benefit from the ministry of the Home League and the fellowship it affords." The Salvation Army is committed to make our message as culturally relevant as possible, and with this in mind we continue to make every effort to reach the women of our land through the Home League and Women's Ministries.

AUSTRALIAN BAPTIST WOMEN

The Executive of Australian Baptist Women, like many other national bodies, rotates around the states. For the term of 1994-96 Victoria holds office, transferring on at the Baptist National Family Convention in January 1997, so we at present are busy people.

Recently we held a successful Mid-term Conference and carried through a varied and inspiring programme. The keynote Bible studies with the theme "We are Christ's Ambassadors" were given by Mrs. Jean McCallum who led us to consider the requirements of an ambassador, then look at Paul (Acts 17) and the young slave girl in Naaman's home. Mrs. Merridie Costello and Mrs. Pam Pearson, both comparatively young women, led life-based studies in a way that was appreciated by all ages.

This was appropriate, for as representatives from each state reported and we chatted together it became apparent that the major effort in each state was to encourage and facilitate change and welcome in the younger women.

In different states the needs and approaches differed vastly. We sympathised afresh with the West when they reminded us that some of their women's groups are 12 hours drive apart even after you reach the north-west, making personal contact almost impossible.

In another state the Executive has made itself into a resource group, helping to research any special project to which a lady feels drawn, for instance support for parents of handicapped children.

Another in a smaller state puts a tremendous amount of planning into an annual house-party which this year drew 120. Reports and concerns like these made for an unforgettable conference.

In Victoria our name has deleted the word 'fellowship' which some younger women said made them think of their grandmothers! The format of meetings has changed considerably too - less meetings, with some functions daytime, some evening, and all considerably different.

At the Conference a young Melbourne mum graduated from our national Leadership Training Course. A leader from her local church told of their pastor's commendation of platform leadership she had given, to which she promptly replied that she was able and confident because of the training she had just done through Baptist Women. Not everyone accepts change easily, but bright spots like that make all the endeavour well worth while!

We thank God for these blessings and encouragements as we press on, and trust that you will each know His grace and blessing as you work for Him in differing churches throughout the vastness of our land. May God bless you all.

Audrie Chibnall (Secretary, Australian Baptist Women)

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE, AUSTRALIA (Inc.)

As National President of Catholic Women's League Australia, I am happy to present this report to the National Conference for Australian Church Women with whom we are affiliated. Our organisation which numbers some 15,000 members throughout this great nation of ours, continues to promote the spiritual, cultural, intellectual and social development of women and to uphold the dignity of women in promoting their participation in social and public life.

Over the past twenty years there have been many changes in our society, in our Church and quietly in the Catholic Women's League. Family breakdown, domestic and social violence, AIDS, women in the workforce (as well as changing roles in the home) have all opened up new avenues of service for our members. These avenues have involved us more with other organisations, both religious and secular, and necessitated a wider perspective on Australian society and our place within, than was seen necessary in the past.

We are affiliated with the World Union of Catholic Women's Organisations (WUCWO) which is the umbrella body for 94 Catholic organisations around the world with a membership of 30 million. We have our own Board member and WUCWO has category 11 Status with the UN Economic and Social Council which entitles us to accreditation at meetings that would otherwise be closed to Australian organisations.

We work with other women's organisations on matters of mutual and social interest and have representatives on many of the National women's organisations including Australian Church Women. We continually make submissions to the Government in areas of concern such as Economic Planning and Advisory Council, to the Media Alliance, the National Council of Privacy Guidelines and Vitro and Embryo Transfer Guidelines. To the Senate Committee on the use of Electronic Technology on both the classification of Computer Games and the possibility of "R" Rated material being available on Pay or Cable TV. These subjects are just a few of the issues that we work on which are relevant in today's changing world.

We have been represented at all meetings in the leadup to the Fourth UN World Conference on Women, the final meeting to be held in August and September of this year. We will have two representatives at this meeting which is estimated to have over 30,000 women in attendance. It is very hard to evaluate just what the outcome of these meetings will be, so I would like to quote the message from Mrs. Mongella, who is the Secretary General of the Beijing Conference. "The purpose of the 4th World Conference on Women is not to emphasize the differences between countries or regions, but to use our diversity as a source of strength and unity, as a strength to eliminate the low status of women in society and to promote a new partnership between men and women, so that the coming generation will be entrusted with advancing the achievement of the best of two decades."

The theme of your conference "Jesus, Women and the World" will I am sure generate some great discussion as Christian women come together from all walks of life. On behalf of every member of the Catholic Women's League in Australia, may you accept our very best wishes for a wonderful and fruitful conference, one that you will be able to be challenged in your ongoing work, bringing the love of Jesus to all who make contact with you.

Georgie Bruce-Smith (National President, CWLA.)

THE UNITING CHURCH ADULT FELLOWSHIP NATIONAL COMMITTEE

The National Committee for this group is now based in Queensland following the New South Wales Committee completing their three year term in May 1994.

The role of the Committee is the same, that is to receive information from the State Committees for Adult Fellowships and to ensure that communication between the States is maintained.

The role of the Committee is also to ensure that Uniting Church folk are represented at the International conferences arranged by denominations with whom we are in fellowship. In particular these are the World Methodist Council, and through them the World Federation of Methodist Women and the World Alliance of Reformed Churches.

In November 1994, the South Pacific Area Seminar for the World Federation of Methodist Women was held in Papua New Guinea and the UCA was represented by 19 women. This Seminar gave the Australians the opportunity to experience being a minority group as there were approximately 450 women from the Pacific Islands present for this inspiring time of fellowship. The Theme for the Seminar was "Jesus Christ, The Strength and Hope for all of Life".

In July 1995 the National Committee hosts a National Adult Fellowship Conference in Brisbane, the Theme being "Risking the Way of Jesus". The speakers are Rev Dr W Haase, Lecturer in Old Testament at Trinity College in Queensland, and Rev Subramanian Manopavan a Minister in the Church in Queensland, who moved to Australia from Sri Lanka approximately 10 years ago.

In July 1996 the World Federation of Methodist Women will hold their World Assembly in Rio de Janero and the National Committee will be encouraging people to attend this gathering. The Theme for the Assembly is "Come Holy Spirit Weave Us Together".

The third National Gathering of Women in the Uniting Church will be held in Brisbane in January 1996. The Theme for this Gathering is "Women Clothed with the Sun" and the National Committee is receiving the information in relation to this conference, arranged by the Commission for Women and Men within the Uniting Church.

With the changes in our society, we are aware that a number of Parishes are moving from the traditional style of "Womens Fellowship" Groups into a different style of Adult Fellowships in order to meet the needs of the people in the Churches and the community. We have noted that the younger women are not interested in what has been the traditional "Ladies Fellowship" and that those faithful ladies who are still meeting in these groups are growing older.

The National Committee needs to be able to make available through the State Committees some of the ideas for fellowship and for building up the life of the Church which have been tried in various areas and that have been successful as we seek to be Christ's witnesses in the world in which we live.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER, AUSTRALIA

The 9th Quadrennial Meeting of the World Day of Prayer International Committee was held at Queen's College, Melbourne University, during February, 1995, and was attended by 148 Delegates from almost 70 countries of the world, most of whom had not previously visited Australia - this being the first such meeting to be held in the Southern Hemisphere.

The well-attended Ecumenical Service on the Sunday evening was held at Wesley Church, Lonsdale Street, supported by the Victorian Council of Churches, at which Rev. Kevin Green presided, Rev. Achara Brunelli preached a thoughtful homily and many of the international delegates participated.

On the previous evening, members of the Victorian Heads of Churches Committee, members of organisations represented on the Victorian WDP Committee and other guests were entertained by Australia at a typical Australian barbecue which was followed by entertainment from Delegates from the Pacific.

During the Meeting, the Delegates worked in one of three Working Groups - the Nominations W.G., the Themes W.G. and the Administration W.G. - most took their responsibilities very seriously and there was very little absenteeism from the time-consuming meetings which left very little free time for anybody.

The Themes Working Group chose the Service Themes and the countries to prepare them from the year 1998 to 2002. The Nominations Working Group conducted the elections which resulted in Navamani Peter, from India, being re-elected for a second term as International Chairperson and also the elections in each of the eight Regions to decide who would serve as Executive Members and their Alternates during the coming quadrennium. The new executive Member for the Pacific Region, who will succeed Margaret Watson of Melbourne, is Taumuafa Toma, of Western Samoa, and Yvonne Harrison, of Tasmania, was elected her Alternate.

The Administration Working Group recommended that in future each country would be requested to contribute at least 4% (instead of the previous 2%) of their WDP offering to ensure that, among other things, our Executive Director in New York, Eileen King, will receive a just wage and that there will be provision for her to employ a suitable and much-needed assistant - they also recommended that an International Treasurer be appointed to the International Committee with the right to vote - that in future the term of office of the International Chairperson be restricted to one term - and several other minor changes to the Constitution, all of which were passed by the Delegates in plenary.

The Bible Studies were very competently led by Musimbi Kanyoro of Kenya - who represented the Lutheran World Federation and who works in Geneva - assisted by a number of group leaders.

Having from first-hand experience always observed the co-operation between World Day of Prayer, the International Committee of the Fellowship of the Least Coin, the Asian Church Women's Conference (there were at least thirteen women present who also hold leadership roles in the latter two movements) and our own Australian Church Women, I hasten to offer the thanks of World Day of Prayer, Australia, to the members of the State Units of ACW - I know that so many of you would have contributed to the "Love Offering" which was taken at the conclusion of the 1994 WDP Services in all our States and which paid for the accommodation at Queen's College of so many of our Pacific Island Delegates who, otherwise, would have been prevented from attending and who,

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER (continued)

by so doing, have so increased the momentum of their knowledge of and enthusiasm for the great movement of World Day of Prayer. The success of the Meeting reflected in no small way the loving solidarity of Australian Christian women, particularly those who worked on the Victorian Local Committee and those who serve on the State Committees of World Day of Prayer, Australia.

My concluding prayer is that the Fellowship of the Least Coin and the World Day of Prayer, each in its own way, will continue to contribute to the spiritual growth of the women of our great South Land, Australia.

Barbara Greal, (National Liaison Officer, WDPA)
(Member of WDP International Committee)

Home - 1996. Fed's call us to respond

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES IN AUSTRALIA

The National Council of Churches in Australia (NCCA) came into being on 3 July 1994, after six years of preparations that involved member churches of the Australian Council of Churches, the Lutheran Church of Australia and the Australian Bishops' Conference. While having legal continuity with the ACC, it represents a renewed commitment by the churches to one another and to God. Its constitution stresses that the new body is to be understood as a council of churches, facilitating moves towards co-operation and unity by the bodies which comprise it and reflecting their views in what it says and does.

MEMBERSHIP - The NCCA is not the only national council of churches to include the Roman Catholic Church. It is, however, unique in its balance: one large group of Orthodox churches, a large Anglican church, a large cluster of Protestant churches, and a large (Eastern as well as Latin-rite) Roman Catholic Church. The Lutheran Church, after playing a major role in the preparatory process, found itself unable to secure the two-thirds majority vote it required for inaugural membership. The question, however, may well be raised again at its next national Convention. The Baptist, Seventh-Day Adventist, Presbyterian and Lutheran churches were represented by observers at the NCCA's first National Forum.

LEADERSHIP - The Revd Ian Allsop succeeded Bishop Oliver Heyward as President of the ACC, in June 1992. Archbishop Aghan Baliozian, Primate of the Armenian Apostolic Church, and the Revd David Gill have been appointed president and general secretary, respectively, of the NCCA.

PRIORITIES AND STRUCTURES - The National Forum established two commissions: Faith and Unity, and Christian World Service. It also asked the ACC's former Commission on Mission to continue ad interim as an agency of the new body. All three commissions have been asked to give high priority to reflecting on how the churches may co-operate, more effectively, within their respective areas of responsibility, with a view to bringing recommendations to the Executive and/or the National Forum. In addition, an Aboriginal and Islander Commission Steering Committee was appointed and asked to involve representatives of indigenous Christian groups within and beyond the membership of NCCA member churches, to prepare recommendations regarding an Aboriginal and Islander entity in relationship with the NCCA. High priority was given to youth participation, and the Executive has established an NCCA Youth Network linking the relevant agencies of member churches. The National

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES IN AUSTRALIA (continued)

Forum asked its Executive to give consideration to several concerns raised by member churches, which may have programmatic or structural implications: the Council's role in evangelism/evangelisation; the Council's response to the concerns of women and of gender relationships; media relations and promotion; and what should be the Council's role in building relationships with people of other living faiths. In addition, informal conversations have begun among some involved in denominational social justice agencies, to reflect on what the NCCA's formation may imply for more effective co-operation between them.

OTHER EVENTS, PROGRAMMES, HEADACHES, DREAMS - The Readers Digest ran one of its recurring, eleven-yearly attacks on the World Council of Churches at the beginning of 1993, and was largely ignored in this country. A gathering entitled "Living Under the Southern Cross 1993" excited some, worried others but bored none at all. A follow-up is scheduled to take place in Melbourne 19-24 January 1996, with the theme "Household of God". The Serbian Orthodox Church withdrew from membership of the ACC citing its preoccupation with the tragic situation in its homeland so that it had neither the time nor the energy to put into relations with other churches in Australia. A major document on **Anti-discrimination and Equal Employment Opportunity** was developed, suggesting ways in which churches might comply more fully with anti-discrimination legislation. An initiative of the ACC Youth Forum was the convening, for the first time, of a fellowship of young people from all Orthodox member churches, to help them, among other things, reflect on the involvement of their own youth movements in things ecumenical. The churches, with help from their national ecumenical body, have played a significant role in challenging Australia to come to terms with its own history. The ACC Executive Committee established a Native Title Task Force, under the leadership of Bishop Bruce Wilson. A major conference was organised by the ACC's Aboriginal and Islander Commission, in late 1993, for white as well as black participants, and on two occasions pastoral teams from the World Council of Churches have visited indigenous people of this country. Through the Christmas Bowl and Force Ten, both of which continue through the ACC/NCCA transition, member churches continue to have two effective instruments for hands-on ecumenism. It must be stressed that, among other things, the NCCA is on about giving practical expression to our vision of the churches' unity in Christ across the nations. It is not simply trying to be another aid agency. Nor does it have to create a presence for itself "on the ground". Wherever need arises or tragedy strikes, the church is already there and the NCCA can transmit help as local congregations may request. Members of our churches need to understand that there is no need to wait for an appeal for a particular place or cause; if they want to give they can, and the NCCA will be pleased to see the money gets to its destination.

David Gill (General Secretary - NCCA)

THE GIRLS' BRIGADE AUSTRALIA

The Girls' Brigade is an International Uniformed Organisation for girls of all ages, and commenced in Australia in 1927. Its' exciting growth throughout the world proves the need for an organisation where girls can share mutual interests and enjoy activities together. World Centenary was celebrated in 1993.

From the first year of schooling right through until the age of 20, there is a place for every girl in Brigade. There are different groups which cater for the needs of girls at each age. Cadets 1st - 3rd year of schooling: Juniors 4th - 6th year of schooling.

Seniors 7th - 8th year of schooling: Pioneers 9th year of schooling upwards. Girls are involved in varied activities of a Four Square programme which provide for growth in every area of life: for example -

SOCIAL: Cookery, Handcraft, Our Community, Travel.
EDUCATIONAL: Aboriginal Culture, Environment, Our Heritage, Photography.
PHYSICAL: Hiking, Camping, Team Sports, Self Defence.
SPIRITUAL: Bible Knowledge, Christian Caring, God's Wonderful World, Praise.

Companies meet weekly for these activities, the girls wear a uniform to signify membership and are encouraged to serve their community.

The girls earn a Badge from the Four Square programme each year as well as Service Awards for attendance at Company nights and Church/Sunday School attendance. Other Awards can be earned, including a pioneer pin, which is the highest Australian Award and the Queen's Award, which is the highest International Award.

Through the Programme of Achievements and Awards, Church and Community Service, the girls are also encouraged to:

*****Set high standards for their own lives, developing self control and determination, encouraging self-acceptance.

*****Share activities with others, helping and being patient with those less skilled.

*****Be aware of the role played by each person in the community and develop a desire to aid those less fortunate.

*****Older girls (Pioneers) develop leadership skills, so they will be ready to take an active part in the community.

The organisation provides training and in-service training for its Officers and leaders, offering support through Divisional fellowship and State Training teams.

During the past eight years, the Programme has undergone extensive changes to maintain a contemporary approach and to introduce activities related to the needs of girls today. There is a wide choice and flexibility within the Programme to meet diverse situations across the country. Australia's Programme has received recognition from National Councils in numerous other countries.

The Girls' Brigade Aim:

To help girls become followers of the Lord Jesus Christ, and through self-control, reverence and a sense of responsibility, to find true enrichment of life.

The Girls' Brigade Motto: Seek, Serve and Follow Christ.

In Australia there are 282 Companies, 11,851 girls and leaders, and 264 Chaplains.

Renelle Neale (National Administrator)

NOTICES OF MOTION

1. NATIONAL EXECUTIVE MOVES THAT THE FOLLOWING ALTERATIONS BE MADE TO THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTION:

Page 2 - Relationships:

5.2

At present reads: "Australian Church Women shall maintain relationships and dialogue with the Australian Council of Churches and other ecumenical bodies."

Change to: "Australian Church Women shall maintain relationships and dialogue with the National Council of Churches in Australia and other ecumenical bodies."

Reason for Change: Because of change of name of that body.

[TYPOGRAPHICAL CORRECTIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION. PLEASE AMEND.

Page 3 - 6.1.1 (a) (v)

At present reads: "...Australian Christian Women."

Change to: "...Australian Church Women."

Page 4 - 6.1.5 (d)

At present reads: "In insufficient.."

Change to: "If insufficient.."

PLEASE DELETE ALL CROSS-REFERENCES TO THE GUIDELINES IN THE CONSTITUTION]

2. The New South Wales Unit moves:

THAT the name AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN be changed to CHURCH WOMEN UNITED.

Rationale: The acronym "ACW" is the recognised title for another body, (Australian Council for Women), and currently there is confusion with the use of this acronym for our body also. (Australian Council for Women is more widely known than Australian Church Women, and is receiving attention and publicity in the media.)

In New Zealand, Canada, the USA, the Philippines, and other Asian countries, the name "Church Women United" is used. To take the same name as these countries would add to the strength of our movement. The name Church Women United is both a statement as well as a title, this would be more easily recognised by society generally and have credibility with the church.

- 2b. In the event of the name of Australian Church Women being changed, the subsequent **MOTION** will be submitted by National Executive:

THAT the Constitution and Guidelines of Australian Church Women be changed accordingly.

3. National Executive recommends:

a) THAT National Executives of Australian Church Women be encouraged to appoint a person/persons who will be responsible for receiving such correspondence relating to social justice issues, and who will extract relevant information from the correspondence and propose appropriate actions;
from the National Secretary.

b) THAT State and Territory Units of Australian Church Women be encouraged to follow similar actions in appointing a social justice contact person, to fulfil the same function within their Unit.

Rationale: Items of correspondence relating to social justice issues are received regularly by the National Executive of Australian Church Women. This material comes from Government, Non-Government organisations, Church and Community sources, and is often in the form of a report on programs or activities. It is often not possible to give appropriate attention to these issues. State and Territory Units of Australian Church Women may also receive similar mailings.

4. National Executive Recommends:

THAT the title "Australian Church Women Memorial Bursary Book" (Guidelines page 15) be now called "Australian Church Women Bursary Book".

Rationale: When the ACW Memorial Bursary Book came to the present National Executive, it was found that over the years names had been added of people who are still living and active in ACW. Therefore the word "Memorial" seems inappropriate.

5. National Executive Recommends:

a) THAT a Roll be compiled of past and present National Life Members of ACW. This Roll to record a brief outline of the women so honoured and their contribution to ACW.

b) THAT this Roll be maintained by the National Minute Secretary.

Rationale: Some of the people named in the book are Life Members, so it seems their names and the contributions they have made to ACW would be more appropriately recorded separately.

6. National Executive Recommends:

THAT Units be encouraged to record and submit entries for the ACW Bursary Book ^{regarding} ~~regarding~~ women who pioneered Women's Inter-Church activities which later led to the formation of Australian Church Women.

Rationale: There are women in all Units who have been very significant in the formation and development of ACW whose names and work have not been recorded.

7. The Queensland Unit Recommends:

THAT consideration be given to holding the Conference from Friday to Monday.

Rationale: This enables younger women to participate. Working women will also find it easier to attend at a weekend. Air fares are cheaper when the weekend is included.

8. Recommendations from National Executive re ACW Disaster Fund.

Preamble: At the suggestion of the ACWC Representative, a National Disaster Fund was established by the 1991-93 National Executive, in order to give donations in cases of disaster. The funding for this came from half of the offering received on World Community Day 1992. (Refer National Executive Minutes March 31st, 1992.) National Executive has been in a difficult situation to know the will of ACW regarding the money in the fund as no explicit directions were given regarding dispersion, nor whether it was meant to be an ongoing fund.

So far, contributions of \$1500 have been made to Rwanda through CARE AUSTRALIA, \$1000 to the FARMHAND appeal (drought relief within Australia), and \$500 to the NATIONAL CHRISTIAN COUNCIL IN JAPAN, for earthquake relief. This leaves a balance of \$1400 in the Disaster Fund.

National Executive submits the following options for consideration

OPTION 1: THAT the Fund be discontinued, and the remaining money be distributed:

- carried*
- a) To present disaster areas throughout the world as decided by National Conference.
OR
 - b) To areas of need in Asia, as nominated by ACWC.
OR
 - c) To areas of need in Australia as decided by National Conference.

Preamble to Option 2: If the Fund is to be ongoing, means of funding need to be established. At the present time, half of the World Community Day Offering is given to Asian Church Women's Conference, as part of our commitment to them. The remaining half, funds a "Special Project" as selected by National Executive each year. This has provided support to a variety of projects over the years, but could be replaced permanently by the ongoing Disaster Fund.

OPTION 2: THAT the Fund be ongoing with money from half of the World Community Day Offering. Distribution to be:

- a) To disaster areas throughout the world on the decision of National Executive, taking into consideration recommendations from State Units.
OR
- b) To areas of need in Asia as nominated by ACWC and decided by National Executive.
OR
- c) To areas of need in Australia on decision of National Executive, taking into consideration recommendations by State Units.

Winifred Kiek Scholarship

The following five recommendations are presented by the National Executive, the National Winifred Kiek Scholarship Convener and the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Trustees. The Major Preamble to these recommendations was forwarded to Units in March 1995 for discussion prior to Conference. The recommendations 1 - 5 in the circulated papers, now become recommendations 9 - 13 of the 1995 National Conference Working Papers.

Preamble for Recommendations 9 & 10:

The Joint Working Group (Trustees and 3 members of National Executive) which met in Adelaide, October 1994, in reviewing the experience of ACW with Winifred Kiek Scholars, felt that, on the whole, the scholars who seemed to have made the most of the opportunity offered by the scholarship, were those who were committed to some form of ministry.

The difficulties experienced in 1994 included:

Language difficulties;

Cultural difficulties;

Visa problems;

Communication difficulties between Australia and the sending country;

Difficulties in finding appropriate courses/experience in Australia;

Covering cost of excess baggage on return journey.

[most of these difficulties have been recurring ones over the years.]

The question arises yet again...Are we making the best use of the scholarship in terms of stewardship and appropriateness?

How might we change the direction of the Scholarship, and still keep the intention of it's founder, Winifred Kiek?

As a result of our discussions we present the following recommendations for your consideration.

Change of Direction of the Winifred Kiek Scholarship.

9. **THAT the Winifred Kiek Scholarship becomes a scholarship which provides Training for Christian Women in Theological Studies and Lay Leadership, equipping them as Minister of the Word, Deacon, Deaconess, or for specific areas of Lay Leadership.**

10. **Preamble:** The planning group suggests that Colleges such as Ngungalinya College, Pacific Theological College, inter-denominational Colleges of the Bible, or Theological Colleges in Australia, would be appropriate to consider in recommendation 10.

of Theological / Religious Studies
THAT the Winifred Kiek Scholarship be offered through an appropriate list of Theological Training Centres, established through consultation with the Countries/Nations involved, which would be revised regularly.

11. **THAT when, and if considered appropriate by the National Executive, in consultation with the Trustees, the award provide for a project for women, through the program of the National Council of Churches World Christian Service.**

educational, charitable.

12. Preamble: Because of constantly recurring difficulties with Visas, and communication with countries in Areas 1 and 2 (Asia, and S.E.Asia) the Joint Working Group proposes an alternate Recommendation, each part of which reduces the number of countries to whom we offer this scholarship.
The working group considered the multicultural nature of Australia and our minimal involvement with Ethnic groups, and the Aboriginal and Islander Communities and offers this recommendation as one possible way of engaging more deliberately with these Cultural groups with whom we live.
- 12 a) THAT the Winifred Kiek Scholarship be offered only to women of multicultural Australia...i.e. Aboriginal, Islander, Ethnic and Caucasian.
- AND/OR
- 12 b) THAT the Winifred Kiek Scholarship be offered only to Area 3 i.e. Multicultural Australia and Pacific ~~Island Territories~~.
countries of the Nations.

Winifred Kiek Fellowships

13. Preamble: Fellowships were established in 1975 as a means of maintaining interest among Australian women in the WKS and its funding. In the light of the proposed changes to the WKS., the working group presents these recommendations as one way of maintaining our interest and contact with the Asian region, but more importantly provides us with a necessary framework within which the Fellowships can be awarded.
- 13 a) THAT at the discretion of National Executive, in consultation with the W.K.Trustees, when appropriate and when funds permit, a WINIFRED KIEK FELLOWSHIP be granted at the time of the National Conference.
- 13 b) THAT once in a Quadrennium, A.C.W. invites a member of Asian Church Women's Conference Executive to Australia to attend the National Conference of Australian Church Women, to contribute to the conference and visit State Units.
- 13 c) THAT at the alternate National Conference, an invitation be issued to either:
- * a past Winifred Kiek Scholar
 - * the Executive Secretary of the International Fellowship of the Least Coin (I.C.F.L.C.)
 - * Church Women United Aotearoa/New Zealand
 - * a noted Christian woman leader

CONSULTATION WITH ABORIGINAL WOMEN

At the last National Conference in Tasmania it was agreed that we would endeavour to make contact with Aboriginal Christian Women and offer assistance to them in setting up a Consultation whereby a closer working relationship could be formed. Over the past 18 months, several avenues have been explored by the WKS Trustees and National Executive, and we are pleased to have the following proposal from Ms Anne Pattel-Gray, Executive Secretary, Aboriginal & Islander Commission of the NCCA. Executive feel very positive about this proposal and our possible participation in the project and have invited Anne to speak to the proposal and answer any questions at Conference.

1st National Ecumenical Aboriginal Christian Women's Conference

University of New South Wales (New College)
Sydney, N.S.W., 02-10 December 1995

PROPOSAL

Introduction

The Aboriginal & Islander Commission (AIC) of the National Council of Churches in Australia has been deeply concerned with the breakdown of Aboriginal women's position within the community and secular society. The AIC research into this area has found that: 1) Aboriginal women were marginalised in secular Australian social, political, economic and areas; 2) this marginalisation was amplified many times over for Christian Aboriginal women; and, 3) there is a serious gulf between Aboriginal women and non-Aboriginal women. In this light, the Aboriginal & Islander Commission decided to take action to empower Aboriginal Christian Women by providing a forum for Indigenous Christian women to gather, organise and identify their struggles and concerns, as well as to enable both Indigenous women and non-Indigenous women to build bridges toward justice and equality.

Plan

The first National Ecumenical Aboriginal Christian Women's meeting will take place at the New College of the University of New South Wales, in Sydney, from the 2nd to the 10th of December, 1995. A number of Aboriginal Christian Women, along with non-indigenous Christian women, will be invited to participate. They will represent churches and ecumenical women's organisations, as well as traditional, rural and urban contexts. To ensure equal participation of both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal women, and to achieve the goals set down for this conference, participation will be by invitation only. The focus of the meeting will be around issues relating to Indigenous women. The meeting will be organised into several sections: presentations, workshops, Bible studies and fellowship.

Indigenous Women

For thousands of years Aboriginal women have had a rich ceremonial life, separate to and respected by Aboriginal men. This ceremonial life is not only important, but also was a very respected aspect of an Aboriginal woman's spiritual foundation. Women's business encompasses women, Law, rituals, ceremonies, songs and dance. This forum will not only ensure the continuation of traditional spiritual beliefs, but also serve to empower Aboriginal women and enable them to identify their aspirations and areas of struggle.

At the conference, Aboriginal women will be able to: explore womanist perspectives on theology; address social and political needs; determine the role(s) and forms of participation they wish to have in the future of the ecumenical movement; and, explore and critique possible and future relationships between themselves and non-indigenous women.

Indigenous and Non-Indigenous Women Together

The conference offers an opportunity for non-indigenous women to: interact with Aboriginal women by listening, seeing and sharing emotions and thoughts; actively 'sit along side' us; worship, study the Scriptures and pray together; create dreams and visions of a just and equal society; and, build a future together.

The conference is not an end in itself, but rather will be the beginning of a long journey between Indigenous and non-Indigenous women.

Request

We therefore seek your solidarity and support in providing the financial assistance, and participation, necessary to make this vision a reality. Financial assistance can best take the form of travel, accommodation and meal assistance for the Aboriginal women, who will be coming from isolated and impoverished communities. Any support secured will be gratefully acknowledged in conference documentation and publicity.

**1st National Ecumenical Aboriginal
Christian Women's Conference**
University of New South Wales (New College)
Sydney, N.S.W., 02-10 December 1995

Budget

INCOME CATEGORIES

REGISTRATION FEES (\$150.00/person x 100 persons)
(incl. morning and afternoon teas, documentation, sponsorship of
Aboriginal women) **\$15,000.00**

DONATIONS

(Committed)
Aboriginal & Islander Commission
Australian Church Women

10,000.00
?

(Sought from:)

Glenburnie Trust
Mercy Foundation
NCCA-Commission for Christian World Service
Uniting Church-Assembly Commission on Women and Men
Uniting Church-N.S.W. 2% for Development Fund
World Alliance of Reformed Churches
World Council of Churches-CCPD
World Council of Churches-CICARWS
World Council of Churches-PCR
Sub-Total: Donations

?
?
?
?
?
?
?
?
?

TO BE RAISED

97,280.00

TOTAL INCOME

(122,280.00)

EXPENSE CATEGORIES

VENUE HIRE (\$120.00/day x 8 days)

960.00

Includes: main conference room, six workshop facilities, conference office.

DELEGATE TRANSPORT/BUS HIRE (02-10 December)

Includes: airport to accommodation (02 December),
and accommodation to airport (10 December).

1,200.00

ABORIGINAL WOMEN PRESENTERS

Travel (airfares x 16 Participants), and accommodation
(including meals)(\$40.00/person/day x 8 days x 16 persons) **25,120.00**

COMMUNICATIONS, and PROMOTIONS/PUBLICATIONS

Conference posters/brochures (A1 & A3, single- & multi-colour)/
Conference Registration Folder 9,500.00
Conference Final Report 8,500.00
Video **5,000.00**
SUB-TOTAL **23,000.00**

CONFERENCE COSTS

public liability insurance 1,000.00
conference equipment rental (on-site) 3,000.00
office supplies, stationery, office and conference documents 2,500.00
postage, freight, courier 1,500.00
telephones, faxes 5,000.00
administration fees (incl. accounting fees, printing, photocopying)10,000.00
staffing support 19,000.00
general expenses 10,000.00
sponsorship (to insure Aboriginal women's participation, incl.
travel, accommodation and meals) 20,000.00
SUB-TOTAL **72,000.00**

TOTAL EXPENSES

\$122,280.00

APPOINTMENTS

The following are the nominees for the Incoming National Executive 1995 - 97

<u>PRESIDENT</u>	Mrs Evonne Sullivan AM JP 35 Macgillivray Street YARRALUMLA, ACT 2600
<u>VICE-PRESIDENT (1)</u>	Mrs Betty Farrell c/- PO Box 89 MAWSON, ACT 2607
<u>VICE-PRESIDENT (2)</u>	Mrs Olga Scott 1 Goudie Place WANNIASSA, ACT 2903
<u>SECRETARY</u>	Mrs Jean Thompson 36 Musgrave Street YARRALUMLA, ACT 2600
<u>TREASURER</u>	Mrs Helen Lloyd 7 Mokoan Place DUFFY, ACT 2611
<u>MINUTE SECRETARY</u>	Mrs Dorothy McMaster 5 Foxall Place HOLDER, ACT 2611
<u>PUBLICATION EDITOR</u>	Lieut.-Colonel Beth Webb c/- PO Box E12, Queen Victoria Terrace PARKES, ACT 2600
<u>FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN</u>	Major Eileen Holley 6 Passmore Close KALEEN, ACT 2617
<u>SPECIAL DAYS</u>	Mrs Betty Laurie 62 Banks Street YARRALUMLA, ACT 2600
<u>WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP</u>	Mrs Jenny Jarvis 12 Lycett Street WESTON, ACT 2611
<u>AUDITOR</u>	Mr Carl Bromwich A.S.A. "Goodwin Village" MONASH, ACT 2904

PROFILES - INCOMING NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

EVONNE SULLIVAN AM JP

Born and educated in Bathurst NSW, Evonne has been active in community affairs throughout her lifetime which included war service as a Red Cross voluntary aide.

Some 10 years were spent in the Northern Territory where she was involved in Church and community life and was active in the ecumenical events which took place there.

Returning to Canberra in 1974 Evonne continued her community and church activities. She was made a Member of the Order of Australia for community service in 1981. She is also a Life Member of Catholic Women's League, Justice of the Peace of the ACT, counsellor of NCW/ACT and an honorary Life Vice President of NCWA.

Evonne has been an executive member of ACW-ACT for 17 years, President, Secretary and Vice President and now a Life Member.

Widowed in 1987, Evonne has 5 children, 9 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren. Special interests are family and friends, ACW, CWL, and NCW involvement, fostering of ecumenism, music, reading and gardening as well as travelling in Australia.

Evonne is looking forward to serving as National President of ACW 1995/97.

BETTY FARRELL

Betty is a member of the Uniting Church in Australia and currently Vice President of the St James Fellowship in the Parish of North Woden, ACT.

Born, raised and educated in the Alexandra district of North Eastern Victoria, Betty is the mother and grandmother of a blended family of nine daughters and sons and 18 grandchildren who are spread around Australia and overseas. Betty leads a busy life but gives a high priority to her church endeavours and her Christian faith.

She is serving her second term as President of the ACT Unit of Australian Church Women. With husband Michael she is active in the ecumenical movement in Canberra where they have lived since 1974.

OLGA SCOTT

As a young woman Olga worked as a telephonist and later in a council library. She is married and mother of 4 adult children.

She has been a member of Australian Church Women - ACT Unit for some years and has been a delegate to the ACT Churches Council for a number of years and still represents us very well there.

Olga is an active member of the Catholic Church and is a life member of the Catholic Women's League and secretary of the Carmelite Auxiliary. She has been active in other community groups and has been a member of the Quota Club for 28 years and a member of Country Women's Association for 20 years.

JEAN THOMPSON

Married to Neville in 1953, they have 4 children and 4 grandchildren. Although both are retired, both take an active part in community life. Apart from 13 years in Port Moresby, Jean has lived in Canberra since school days.

An active, confirmed member of the Uniting Church, she has served as an Elder in both the local congregation and the Parish and has also been a member of Presbytery and Synod and some of their committees.

A delegate or Associate member of NCW since 1974 she has served on the executive committee in a number of positions including Honorary Secretary for 3 years. During that time she has represented NCW/ACT on various community bodies and at numerous conferences and seminars including a visit to London to attend an ICW Conference.

Both Neville and Jean have been members of Australian Council of Churches (now NCCA) for many years and assisted with 1991 World Council of Churches Conference in Canberra organising the information desks. There has always been an interest in ecumenical organisations.

Proficient with Macintosh Computer, Jean also enjoys gardening, makes jams, pickles and preserves and pot pourri from the garden produce. Looks forward to having time to paint in the future.

HELEN LLOYD

Born in Geelong, Victoria, Helen was educated at Morongo PGC and graduated as Bachelor of Commerce from Melbourne University after which she became an Associate of the Australian Society of Accountants.

For many years Helen worked on the audit staff of a firm of accountants in Melbourne and also in London for 2 years.

Married to Gordon she has 4 adult children, 2 living at home, one in Sydney and one in Canberra. The family moved to Canberra in 1974 and since moving here Helen has been Honorary Treasurer of several church and community groups including Mothers' Union - Australian, Canberra Branch and Diocesan Treasurer, Anglican Women - Diocesan Treasurer and Australian Church Women since 1988. She has also worked for Girl Guides ACT on their management committee.

Helen is a member of All Soul's Anglican Parish, Chapman where she is the Honorary Auditor. She also does audits for other groups in an Honorary capacity.

Special interests include knitting, walking and cooking.

DOROTHY MCMASTER

Dorothy was born in North Sydney and after education undertook secretarial duties for a firm of Stockbrokers.

In 1947 she married a Baptist minister, Rev Fred McMaster and commenced life together in ministry at Grafton.

In 1952 they moved to Canberra Baptist Church where Dorothy was involved in church life as a busy minister's wife. During this time she also worked as a school bursar for 22 years, receiving the public education award, for Outstanding Service to Education in the ACT.

Rev Fred retired in 1980 after 28 years at Canberra Baptist Church. Dorothy has been a delegate to Australian Church Women for a number of years.

Dorothy has a son and a daughter and 2 grandchildren. She has also travelled widely in Great Britain and Europe and USA and Canada.

BETH WEBB

Born and educated in Northern Victoria, Beth chose Primary school teaching as a profession.

With husband Les, she has been a Salvation Army officer for 38 years and has served in Tasmania, Victoria and South Australia in a variety of shared appointments, in ministry, social work and in public relations work as a Planned Giving Director, and in administration. For the past 3 years they have served at the National Secretariat in Canberra where Beth assists with office work and book-keeping and represents The Salvation Army Women's Ministries nationally, on women's and family concerns.

In many of these appointments Beth has represented The Salvation Army on World Day of Prayer local committees, National Council of Women in South Australia and the ACT and latterly as Secretary of the ACT Unit of ACW and has a real interest in ecumenism.

She has 4 children and 5 grandchildren. A gardening enthusiast, she also enjoys cooking, reading, knitting and needlework and travelling.

EILEEN HOLLEY

Mrs Major Eileen Holley was commissioned and ordained as a Salvation Army officer in January 1971. Her first appointment was to Bowen corps in Far North Queensland as an assistant Corps Officer.

In June 1971 she returned to Sydney to be married to Peter, also an officer in The Salvation Army. Together they have served as corps officers in Queensland, NSW and ACT.

In January 1994 they were appointed to The Salvation Army Public Relations Department in Canberra where Eileen has responsibility for the Deferred Giving work as well as representing The Salvation Army at Australian Church Women - ACT.

Eileen is the mother of 3 adult children, 2 daughters and a son all of whom are living at home. Her interests away from work are her family and garden and one day hopes to fulfil a desire to start and finish an Amish Quilt.

BETTY LAURIE

Betty came to Canberra from Melbourne almost 40 years ago as the wife of Godfrey who was already involved as an Elder and Treasurer of the Presbyterian Church of St Andrew in Canberra. Betty's training had been in office work and as a Deaconess of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

These skills have been used in Church activities as president of the Presbyterian Women's Association, teaching both in Sunday School and at local schools, hospital visiting, Secretary of the board of management at St Andrews and supporting her husband in his role as Session Clerk for 25 years.

Having spent 3 years in the Australian Women's Land Army (in Victoria) 1942-45 she has continued that interest as a member of the Country Women's Association of Canberra. She has represented St Andrew's as a member of the ACT Unit of Australian Church Women, at present Special Days Convener.

Betty and Godfrey have 2 sons and three grandchildren all living away from Canberra. She is interested in music (choral music in particular), enjoys reading and the usual domestic pursuits.

JENNY JARVIS

Married to Reverend Ken, a Baptist minister, mother of Sueella and Lisa, 'Ma' of Peter, Stephen and Elizabeth, the family has led a nomadic life following Ken in his career as Chaplain in the Armed Forces.

After a career of almost 30 years as a Primary school teacher, teaching in four different States and spending the last 16 years in Catholic education, Jenny retired 4 years ago. However, contact has been maintained through Christian education in schools.

A volunteer at Carey Gardens aged persons' hostel and treasurer of National Council of Women - ACT are special interests while reading, gardening, floral art and needlework are also recreational interests.

* * * * *

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN are most appreciative of the courteous assistance given by the following individuals and organisations:

**MRS CHERYL EBERT
&
STAFF AT 'CORPUS CHRISTI'**

ANZ BANKING GROUP LTD

**THE SALVATION ARMY
EASTERN VICTORIA DIVISION**

MELBOURNE CONVENTION & TOURIST AUTHORITY

LET'S SING

1. It's a New and Living Way

It's a new and living way
Walk ye in it,
It's a new and living way
God has planned.
In this new and living way
I am walking day by day.
I am guided and led by
His right hand.

2. Lift Jesus Higher

Lift Jesus higher,
Lift Jesus higher,
Lift Him up for the world to
see.
He said "If I be lifted up
from the earth
I will draw the world unto
Me.

3. Into Thy Presence We Come

Into Thy presence we
come
Not by the works we have
done
But by Thy grace and Thy
grace alone
Into Thy presence we
come.

4. He is the King of kings.

He is the King of kings,
He is the Lord of lords.
His name is Jesus, Jesus,
Jesus, Jesus,
Oh, He is the King.

5. I am Redeemed

I am redeemed
By the blood of the Lamb
I am redeemed
I know I am
I am redeemed
by the blood of the Lamb,
saved from sin, I know I
am
All my sins are taken
away.
Praise the Lord.

6. In the Name of Jesus

In the name of Jesus
In the name of Jesus
We have the victory
In the name of Jesus,

In the name of Jesus,
Demons will have to flee.
When we stand on the
name of Jesus
Tell me who can stand
before,
In the precious name of
Jesus,
We have the victory.

7. Come bless the Lord

Come, bless the Lord
all ye servants of the Lord,
Who stand by right
in the house of the Lord
Lift up your hands
in the holy place
and bless the Lord,
and bless the Lord.

8. It's a new day

It's a new day,
it's a new day
it's a new day of the Lord
(repeat 3 lines)
A day of joy and gladness,
of victories to be won
A day of walking hand in
hand
With Jesus Christ, God's
Son.

9. Let's all get together

Let's all get together in
communion sweet,
Walk, walk in the light.
Let's love one another till
the Saviour we meet.
Walk, walk in the light.
Walk in the light
Walk in the light
Walking in the light of
God.

10. I'm so glad

I'm so glad Jesus lifted me
I'm so glad Jesus lifted me
I'm so glad Jesus lifted me
Singing glory, hallelujah
Jesus lifted me.

Satan had me bound, but
Jesus set me free.....

I'm on my way to heaven,
shouting victory.....

11. O Come, let us adore Him

O come, let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him
Christ, the Lord.

For He alone is worthy.....

We give Him all the
glory.....

12. Come into His presence

Come into His presence
singing Hallelujah
Hallelujah, Hallelujah

Come into His presence
singing Jesus is Lord....

Come into His presence
singing Worthy the
Lamb....

13. Wherever I am

Wherever I am
I'll praise Him,
Whenever I can,
I'll praise him
for His love surrounds me
like the sea.
I'll praise the name of
Jesus,
Lift the name of Jesus,
For the name of Jesus
lifted me.

14. He paid a debt

He paid a debt He did not
owe,
I owed a debt I could not
pay,
I needed someone just to
wash my sins away.
And now I sing a brand
new song,
Amazing Grace, the whole
day long,
Christ Jesus paid the debt
that I could never pay.

15. They shall come from the east

They shall come from the east, they shall come from the west,
And sit down in the Kingdom of God;
Both the rich and the poor, the despised, the distressed,
They'll sit down in the Kingdom of God.
And none will ask what they have been
Provided that their robes are clean'
They shall come from the east, they shall come from the west,
And sit down in the Kingdom of God.

They shall come.....
To be met by their Father and welcomed and blessed,
And sit down in the Kingdom of God.
The black, the white, the dark, the fair,
Your colour will not matter there;
They shall come.....

They shall come.....
Out of great tribulation to triumph and rest
They'll sit down in the Kingdom of God.
From every tribe and every race,
We all as sisters shall embrace;
They shall come.....
(John Gowan)

16. At the name of Jesus

At the name of Jesus every knee shall bow,
every tongue confess him King of Glory now:
'tis the Father's pleasure we should call him Lord,
who from the beginning was the mighty Word.

Humbled for a season to receive a name
from the lips of sinners unto whom he came,

faithfully he bore it spotless to the last,
brought it back victorious when from death he passed.

Name him, sisters, name him
with love as strong as death,
but with awe and wonder and with bated breath:
he is God the Saviour, he is Christ, the Lord,
ever to be worshipped, trusted and adored.

In your hearts enthroned him,
there let him subdue all that is not holy,
all that is not true; crown him as your Captain
in temptation's hour let his will enfold you
in its light and power.

Sisters, this Lord Jesus shall return again
with his Father's glory, with his angel train:
for all wreaths of empire meet upon his brow,
and our hearts confess him King of glory now.
(Caroline Maria Noel)

17. When morning gilds the skies

When morning gilds the skies,
My heart awaking cries:
May Jesus Christ be praised!
Alike at work and prayer
To Jesus I repair;
May Jesus Christ be praised!

Whene'er the sweet church bell
Peals over hill and dell,
May Jesus Christ be praised!
O hark to what it sings,
As joyously it rings,
May Jesus Christ be praised!

Does sadness fill my mind?

A solace here I find
May Jesus Christ be praised!
Or fades my earthly bliss?
My comfort still is this:
May Jesus Christ be praised!

In Heaven's eternal bliss
The loveliest strain is this:
May Jesus Christ be praised!
Let earth and sea and sky
From depth to height reply:
May Jesus Christ be praised!

Be this, while life is mine,
My canticle divine:
May Jesus Christ be praised!
Be this th' eternal song
Through ages all along:
May Jesus Christ be praised!
(Mrs Edward Caswell)

19. Child in the Manger

Child in the manger,
infant of Mary'
outcast and stranger,
Lord of all!
Child who inherits
all our transgressions,
all our demerits
on him fall.

Once the most holy child of salvation
gently and lowly lived below;
now, as our glorious mighty Redeemer,
see him victorious o'er each foe.

Prophets foretold him,
infant of wonder;
angels behold him on his throne;
worthy our Saviour of all their praises;
happy for ever are his own.
(Mary Macdonald)